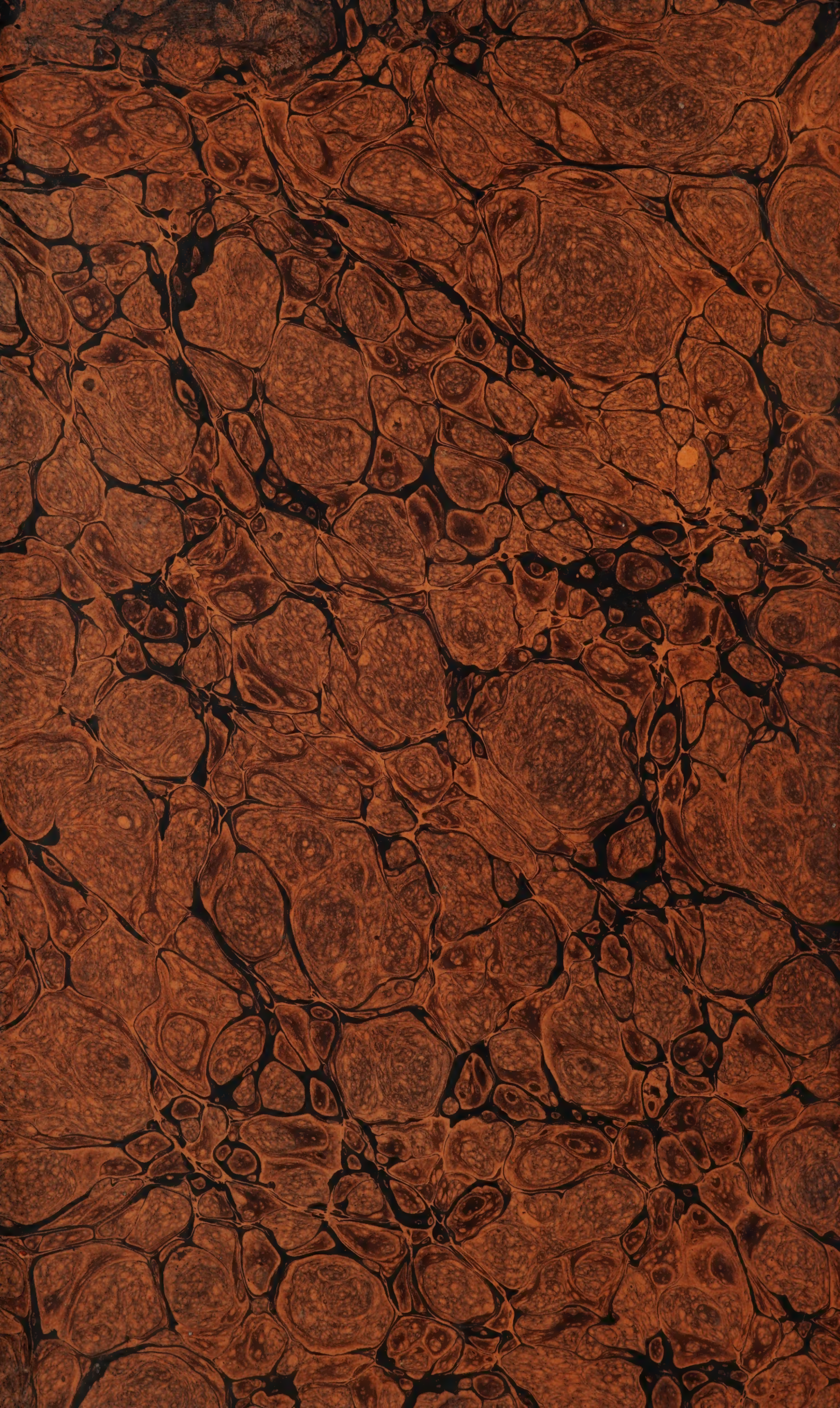




W.M. *Minutes*
1839-1851
EARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND



100.(w)

No.

205

W.M.

Men

Women

Minutes

1839-1851

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

1839 to 1851 inclusive.

At the General Yearly Meeting of Ministers, held at Liverpool, the adjournments from the 16th of the 1st mo. to the 21st of the same, inclusive, 1839.

Second day morning, much agreeable to the conclusion of last year, at the 9th hour, and after a season of retirement, proceeded to business.

The representatives from our respective Quarterly Meetings, as stated in the accounts received at this time are, viz.
Worcester. Hannah Brown, Alice Walker, Elizabeth King,
Mary Stone, Anne Brewster and Lois Anthony.

Leicester. Abigail Stone, Ruth Jones, Anne P. Brown, Maria Smith,
Rachel Gove, Miriam B. Johnson and Sophronia Page.

Sandwich. Anne Macomber, Hannah Shade, Mary Fisher,
Sarah Halls, Mrs. A. Rock, Alice Rogers, Mary Davis,
Sarah Patten and Mary King.

Southfield. Rachel Goble, Mary P. Allen, Sarah Clapp,
Lydia B. Kelley and Lydia B. Capron.

Waltham. Lydia H. Jones, Ruth Howell, Maria B. Jones,
and Emma Robinson.

Hopkinton. Mary Jones, Anne Bates, Hannah Brown,
Emily Nichols, Minnie Jones and Emily H. Hill.

Green. Mary V. Brown, Anne Elmina Long, Lydia Thompson
and Phoebe Mason.

Who being called are present excepting three who for
various reasons for their non-attendance which were
accepted.

A Certificate was read at this time on behalf of
our beloved friend Elizabeth Gibson from the
West Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Liverpool
England, the 14th of the 7th mo. 1838, as sent by the
Lancashire Quarterly Meeting, and one from the
Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London the
8th of 11th mo. 1838. The reading of these Certificates,
together with the company and religious services
of this our friend are truly acceptable to us at this
Yearly Meeting.

A Copy of a Minute from New York Monthly Meeting of Friends, on behalf of our beloved friend Elizabeth Carpenter and one from the same Monthly Meeting for our beloved friend Rachel Stanton were read, they are both accepted in answer of this Yearly Meeting.

By accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings we have been furnished with the following information viz. That Salem Quarterly Meeting had united with Ware Monthly Meeting, in approving the public appearance in the Ministry of Alice Page. — that Smithfield Quarterly, has united with Bolton Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Holden to the station of an Elder. — that Weymouth Quarterly, has united Weymouth Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Moses Clarke to the same station, with China Monthly Meeting in approving her as a forced gift in the Ministry, and in approving the public appearances of David Smith. — and the Dover Quarterly unites with Dover Monthly Meeting in approving the ministry of Abigail M. Jones.

Such are acceptable letters from the Yearly Meetings of Baltimore, London, New York and North Carolina have been read to our satisfaction and we have appointed our friends Susan Howland, Anna Perkins, Hannah Collins, Elizabeth Meader, Elizabeth Parker, Lydia S. Caper, Mary De Haven, Rachel H. Coley, Lydia Reed, Ruth Davis, Ann E. Lang, Alice Colburn, Minnie Ketchell, Sophronia Page, Abigail Davis, Lois Greene, Mary Davis, Mary A. Cooke, Anna Bates and Hannah Gould Senr. to consider the subject of addressing our beloved sisters of other Yearly Meetings, and if they should be favoured with qualification therefor, prepare essays and present to the Meeting.

We appoint our friends Mary Fisher, Mary Howland, Eunice Nichols and Mary Lippard to prepare a Summary from the answers and present

when ready.

We adjourn to the time our next friends may conclude to meet this afternoon.

2nd day afternoon, met at the 15th House.

The representatives having met and conferred on the subject of Clarks, have proposed Hannah Childs Sec^y for Clerk and Susan Howland Assistant, which being acceptable to the meeting they are appointed to that service.

Speakers from the Society of Friends, Philanthropists and others were received and sent to our common sense.

The Ladies presented Epistles for the year 1838 containing much profitable counsel has been read to our satisfaction.

We adjourn to the time our next friends may conclude to meet 3rd day morning met at the 9th House.

A proposition from Wassaborough Quarterly Meeting to alter the time of holding their next Quarterly Meeting to the same day of the same day at the 15th House was made, deliberated upon, and voted with in this meeting.

The Queries were read with answers thereto from our several Quarterly Meetings. Many powerful expressions are there exhibited to our view, and no time being passed with pertinent remarks and strongly counsel from several sisters, which we desire may be individually and collectively applied and treasured in our minds.

We adjourn to the time our next friends meet this P.M. 3rd day afternoon met at the 15th House.

The Report of the Brethrens School Committee has been read, & satisfactory as is the following copy.

In again presenting their Annual Report to the Society meeting at the 15th House this night, notwithstanding some discouragements, gratefully to commemorate the many that have been entrusted to our charge which is various minutes of the Institution.

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have been preserved in good health, and the School
we have cause to believe has continued to be useful
to those who have been placed in it.

Meetings for Divine worship have been regularly
held in the house, except during the time of the vacation,
and harmony we believe prevails. The average number

of scholars during the past year has been seventy seven.

The late Superintendents of the School having re-
signed their trust, we have engaged our friends
Allen and Olive Wing to act in that capacity, who
have entered upon the discharge of their duties; and
Jonathan L. Locum, Samuel Austin and George F. Read,
are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and
Emeline Aldrich and Elizabeth W. Stone in the Girls'.

The Treasurers and Superintendents' accounts have been
settled, by which it appears that the debts of the Institution
have been reduced during the past year, and that its
present indebtedness is about two thousand dollars.

For more particular information of the receipts and ex-
penditures we refer to the Superintendents' account, her-
ewith presented. In the present condition of the finances
of the School, we have not thought it proper to propose
any change in the terms from the prices of last year—
which are \$33 pr term for members of this Yearly Meet-
ing; \$45 for those scholars who are not members, where
one or both parents are members, and \$50 for the members
of other Yearly Meetings, payable in advance. Ten
dollars pr term, additional charge, is made for instruction
in the Languages. We have concluded to propose that
Stationery and books be furnished the scholars, for
their use in the School, free of expense, except so far
as are necessary in the higher branches, including
the Mathematics and the Languages, and that these
be supplied at their actual wholesale cost.

The income of the charitable fund will about sup-
port ten scholars, one term each, and Monthly Meetings
that may desire to occupy the privilege are requested
to make application to the standing School Committee.

seven for their admission at the commencement of the
winter term, which this year will be the fourth day of the
eleventh month.

The division of the year into two terms with vacations
has, we think, proved salutary in practice, and the exam-
ination at the close of each term has been interesting &
profitable. We are aware that it may be interrupted
during the progress of war, but we think it may be
withdrawn from the school until it is completed
without its interruption. It will take place on the first day of
the last week of the term, so that scholars will be ready
to leave on the first day of the month.

The Committee of Management of the South African School
approaching the anniversary of the Constitution have
been very much attracted and we have labored for
the improvement of the school. We have been
in these respects. We have believed that usefulness
might result from again presenting the accom-
panying Circular Paper in 1833 to the several meet-
ings of Friends and the various Committees of the
Monthly Meetings in recommending scholars to the
school, as well as parents and guardians are earnestly
requested to exercise care that the provisions therein
contained are faithfully observed.

We also think it right to remind friends of the estab-
lished regulation of the school that none are admitted
into the male department, over fourteen years of age,
who have not previously received permission from
the school committee, which meets at the School House
in Providence on the first day, preceding the first Fifth
day in every month.

On behalf and in direction of the School Committee.
Samuel Lloyd Taber, Clerk.

South African School 3rd 5th mo. 1837.

The friends appointed for that purpose have prepared
a Summary which with some alteration was approved
and is as follows. viz.

Summary of the Minutes

It appears by the reports to the General Session from
our several District Meetings that with a few exceptions
all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have
been kept up and attended by most of our members, yet
deficiencies are apparent in the attendance of night, Sabbath
and afternoon meetings, on which account labour has been
bestowed. There have generally been a few instances
of sleeping in meetings, of other unbecoming behaviour
mostly clear. A good degree of love and unity appears to
be maintained by most friends, yet not so fully by all
as to suppress sectarian & other differences. Some measures
have now been taken to end them. Many among
us are concerned to bring up their youth under their disci-
pline in plainness and gravity, to restrain them from
unprofitable reading and the corrupt conversations of
the world, endeavouring to be exemplary before them-
selves, while a want of consistency in these respects is ap-
parent in others. The Holy Scriptures we think are frequen-
tly read in private families. A general care is prevalent
to avoid the improper use of spirituous liquors, and
the frequenting places of public resort: a good degree
of moderation observed on account of births, marriages,
burials and other occasions. The circumstances of the
poor are attended to and their necessities relieved, their
children partake of learning, and none are placed
poor among friends. There appears to be a concern
on the minds of most parents and heads of families,
that all proceedings with respect to marriage be con-
formable to discipline, yet all are not sufficiently careful
to guard against deviations in these respects on which
account labour has been bestowed. A want of faithful
maintenance of our Christian testimony against an hea-
then ministry is apparent in a few instances, clear in
the other particulars of this query. Mostly clear as re-
gards the other parts of this query, where deficiencies
have been manifested care has been extended.

According generally attended to some deficiencies

respecting individuals are under notice. Offenders have been
treated with the gentlest measures as far as possible, and the
peace is conformably to our discipline.

An interesting Memorial from Lawrence & Co. Meeting
concerning our dear friend David Boylston is now before
us from Hopsborough Monthly Meeting respecting our
Beloved Friend Valentine Weston we have been reading
at this time - among the suggestions considered by the
meeting of these testimonies of our dear departed friend
be placed in our records, and we intend to follow their
guidance as they were engaged to follow Christ.

Our dear friends informed us that a proposition
had been made to alter the holding of our select Yearly
Meeting and that they had appointed a Committee
to take the subject under consideration - whereupon
we appointed our friends Hannah Dennis John A. Ste-
den, Elizabeth Carter, Ruth Lewis, Emma Shaw & Martha
A. Steden, Hannah Holmes Emma Macomber and Elizabeth
A. Steden to join our men friends in their deliberations
and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We adjourn to the church here tomorrow.

4th day next agreeably adjournment. no business coming
before us we adjourn to the time our men friends may
conclude to meet this afternoon.

Afternoon met at the 4th house.

Episodes of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia
and Indiana have been read, approved and signed.

The Committee appointed last year to consider
the proposal of dividing Hopsborough Quarterly
Meeting presented the annexed report. viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed last year on the report
from Hopsborough, relative to the division of
this Quarterly Meeting. Report that they have
attended to the subject, and account of their labors
relative the Quarterly Meeting and meeting of the
Assembly Meeting as constituted in it, and after con-
sidering the same are now in judgment that

8.
it may be best to continue the subject another year
under the same Committee.

Newport 6th Mo 19th 1839

John Meader (the Secretary
Elizabeth Hoig) the Treasurer

This report was accepted, and the subject left under
the care of the same Committee that had it in charge
the last year.

We adjourn to the hour our new Friends conclude to meet.
5th day afternoon, with all the family here.

Extract of Epistles to the Society Meetings of London
this, New York, Virginia and North Carolina have
been read, approved and agreed.

The friends under appointment to consider the
proposal of holding the Select Yearly Meeting at
Newport, instead of Portsmouth as it has been held
heretofore report as follows. viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee on the proposition to remove the Select
Yearly Meeting from Portsmouth to this place, report,
that they have had a conference on the subject, and
are united in judgment that such a removal is
advisable, and that no change in the time of the said
said meeting be proposed, except to hold an evening
meeting in the afternoon of the day on which the meet-
ing is now held. In behalf of the Committee

Rowland Greene

Newport, 19th day Mo 1839.

Harriet Burrows.

This report was united with, and the meeting will
according be held at this place the next year.

Our men friends presented ^{at meeting proposed by} ~~the~~ ~~advice~~ ~~of~~ their Committee
to consider the situation of the little company of Friends
at Little Neck School, which is as follows. viz.

Extract of a Minute proposed by the Committee appointed to
take into consideration the subjects suggested by the answer
to the Sixth Query from England with respect to attending.

viz. "This attending being proposed that a Preparative Meet-
ing has been established by which Monthly Meeting
at Little Neck, in the Province of New York, where there

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are now a considerable number of Friends, who from their remote situation, being about five hundred miles from where the Monthly Meeting is held, have been and are likely to be subjected to great inconvenience to accomplish marriages among their members, in conformity to the order of our Society, as now prescribed in our Discipline, which circumstance has claimed the consideration of the Meeting, and after deliberately weighing the subject, we have thought well to make the following provision for the accommodation of those members who may reside in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who may wish to join in marriage. — Namely, That persons thus intending to join in marriage, shall appear before the Preparative Meeting at Freetown, and declare their intention of taking each other in marriage; whereupon the Preparative Meeting shall make record of the proposition, and forward a copy of that record to China M^o. Meeting; upon receiving of which, the C^o. M^o. Meeting shall proceed to appoint suitable Friends to make inquiry into the claims of the parties to proceed in their intended marriage, and this Committee may be composed of Friends of Freetown Preparative Meeting, although not present, or otherwise of such as are present. — Said Committee, after due inquiry, are to report to China Monthly Meeting, and if there does not appear any objection to their proceeding, the Monthly Meeting shall appoint suitable Friends, either present or not, to superintend the marriage, to be accomplished in a public Meeting, according to the good order of the Society, and make report to the C^o. M^o. Meeting, accompanied with the Marriage Certificate to be placed on the records of China Monthly Meeting. And said C^o. M^o. Meeting is authorized to make such alterations in the form of the Marriage Certificate, as are essentially necessary, to make it applicable to the circumstances under which the marriage has been conducted.

This arrangement is not intended to be continued any longer than the circumstances which have

given rise to the former shall remain.
The situation of the Westmoreland County Society is such
much sympathy and feeling in the minds of friends,
and the measures adopted in relation to them seem con-
sistently united with.

The Committee of 1856 and 1857 have made an
appointment to visit meetings and individuals as occa-
sion may require, subject as discussed.

The joint Committee of New Haven Fair is appointed
to visit substitute meetings and individuals, as occasion
might require, and way open for, Report, that they have
paid attention to their appointment, and some labor has
been done, which we trust has been useful; and it appears to
us that usefulness would result from a similar appoint-
ment at the present time.

On behalf of the Committee

Thomas Woodhead,
Elizabeth King,

Report, Oct. 20th 1857.

This report was accepted, and after some deliberation
it was concluded to request the same friends who serve
the last year to give their attention to the object of the
appointment and report next year.

The Committee appointed to unite with the Committee of
New friends to bring forward names to constitute the Boarding
School Committee for the ensuing year, namely Lydia Bond,
Anna A Jenkins, Mary B. Allen, Susan Bondman, Mary Davis,
Hannah Bondman, Thos Chase, Eunice Child, James A. Brown,
Mary T Brown and Emma Robinson, have selected the
following friends, viz. Elizabeth King, Hannah Bondman,
Mary Chase, Hannah Bondman, Susan Bondman,
Mary Bondman, Anna A Jenkins, Elizabeth Meader, Caroline
Tobey, Elizabeth Congdon, Lydia Boynton, James A. Brown,
H. Tobey, Mary B. Allen, Ruth May, Elizabeth A. Bondman, Susan
Bondman, Lydia A. Bondman, Susan Bondman, Susan Bondman,
Mary Tobey, Mary A. Tucker, Hannah Ballins, Ruth Wagoner,
Mary E. Bond, Alice Chase, Eliza B. Boyce, Lydia Bond,
Mary A. Brown, Susan Bondman, Elizabeth Child, Susan
Bondman, Eunice Child, Eunice Child and Eunice

Article, the nomination being satisfactory to the electing they are appointed accordingly.

We adjourn to the time our warm friends may conclude to meet tomorrow.

At day morning next at the 1st hour

The representatives being called are all present who attended the first sitting.

An essay of an Epistle to Baltimore Yearly Meeting was read, approved and signed.

Excerpts from the minutes of our dear friends from other Yearly Meetings have been prepared and it is decided to sign them in behalf of the meeting.

An Epistle from this to our subordinate meetings has been read, united with and is as follows, viz.

Being again permitted to meet in our annual assembly, our dear absent friends have been affectionately brought to our remembrance, and we have been desirous that they might be partakers in ~~our~~ ~~some~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ to some extent with us, in the exercises and interesting concerns that have claimed our attention.

Our meeting has been large and solemn; and we have had cause reverently to acknowledge that the unity of our church had been in our hands more fully than we could have done. We have been able to conduct the concerns of the Church, that have come before us, in a most faithful manner - to the glory of the Lord. We had the comfortable company of several ministers from other Yearly Meetings who have laboured to do us good and edification.

By the absence to the Convention it appears that there are many deficiencies within our borders, and we have been brought to view that there is a need of more faithful labourers in our vineyard. We are earnestly and faithfully to labour for their conversion. At present we are suffering much for our worship, particularly in the middle of the week, and a great deal of time and money are being the painful experience that are brought to view. We are to be and have to pray - in Christ Jesus our Lord.

and the Lord will be with us in the day of our trial.

When we consider our dependence upon the Lord, and the many mercies which He has bestowed upon us, that all things were formed and are still sustained by His power, that it is in His mercy that we are not consumed, how can we neglect the presence of God, or assemble ourselves together to worship Him? And how, beloved Friends, can we put up our petitions to Him, that He will be pleased to forgive us our deep guilt as we forgive those who trespass against us, while we continue to harbour in our hearts unkind feelings towards a brother? If we are wanting in these two most essential qualifications of the Christian — love to God and love to man, — it is in vain for us to attempt to support unwaveringly any of our religious principles & testimonies: and we have been repeatedly made sensible that a deficiency herein has led to other departures that have been painful to our souls. Let us, dear Friends, search faithfully within ourselves and know the condition of our hearts in this respect.

Among the failures in duly maintaining our religious testimony we notice first sorrow, some of a painful nature. The faithful support of our religious views of the peaceable nature of the Gospel of Christ and His exhortations in this respect has been felt by us at this time to be of great weight. We believe that our predecessors in religion had their minds divinely illuminated to understand the teachings of Christ and His Apostles on this subject, and that it is our duty to endeavour to come up faithfully to their footsteps. There are, as we apprehend, errors on this point on this important doctrine; so we earnestly crave for our members that they may be preserved on the ancient Christian ground of our religious Society, believing that they will find this practical and safe ground for them to stand upon.

It is a day, beloved Friends, when the eyes of the people are much turned towards us, and we have reason

to us that we have light enough to shine before men that they
may see that we are truly in the truth who is in the truth.

The doctrine of the necessity of the immediate, qualifying
power of the Holy Spirit is not for the purpose of inspiring
only, but we have a fundamental principle of our society,
which must be acknowledged by all faithful
members as being a necessary basis for our practical labours.

Our testimonies, tracts, tracts, &c. are
religious testimonies, and we believe we can only successfully
read them before the world, or effectively enforce them
upon others as we receive this heavenly qualification
from the great Head of the Church.

This feeling has been introduced into much concern
that our members may be prevented from attempting in
their own time and strength to do the work of the Lord.
Remember the declaration of the dear Redeemer — "My time
is not yet come; but your time is always ready." And we
have been led to fear that in associating with others
who do not acknowledge, as we do, the need of this im-
mediate, divine qualification in order for the proper an-
swer of religious duties, we are in great danger of neglecting
this fundamental principle, and of attempting to act
with them in our own strength and zeal; and thus lose
that ability to labour successfully in the Lord's cause which
He is graciously pleased to vouchsafe to those whom He
calls into His service. And under this feeling of concern
we believe it right for us tenderly to persuade our dear
Friends to avoid mingling with the various associations
of the day for the support of those Christian testimonies
which our Society has peculiarly felt itself called upon
to bear before the world; but keeping together as a religious
body, in love looking unto the great Helper of this
people for His assistance, we may yet trust, in the Lord's
good time to be in some measure the humble in-
strument in His hand of doing His heavenly will.

Dear friends, let us be engaged to watch unto prayer; let
us gather home in the spirit of our minds unto the Father
in Heaven and Bishop of souls, and reverently wait upon Him.

that thus we may be preserved from the spirit, the manner
and the policy of the world that have us to do with. May we
be favoured to abide in Christ - "As the branch cannot bear
fruit of itself except it abide in the vine, no more can ye
except ye abide in me." And now, Beloved Friends, farewell.
We desire that in simple faith we may commit ourselves
into the preserving hand of "Him" who is able to keep us
from falling and to present us faultless before the presence
of his glory with exceeding joy - to whom be glory and
majesty, dominion and power forever.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of our Quarterly Meeting
of Friends for Connecticut, held on Rhode Island, from the
16th to the 21st of the 6th Mo. inclusive, 1839.

Abraham Shearman Jun^r Clerk

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

The Clerk is directed to forward to our Quarterly Meetings
the Epistle from this Meeting together with transcripts of the
received from other Yearly Meetings.

Having been favoured to transact the concerns that
have come before us in harmony, and witnessed from sitting
to sitting a portion of our sibilal request, we desire gratefully
to return a lively sense thereof, as inducing to us in-
creased dedication to the cause of Truth - and an entire
dependence on "Him" who is the never failing source
of help and strength - we conclude, purposing to
meet again if so permitted, at the usual time and
place next year.

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters,

Having been permitted again to meet in our Annual Assembly, for the important duty of transacting the affairs of the Church, you have been brought feelingly to our remembrance, and we have earnestly desired, that you and we may continue to cherish the blessing of personal acquaintance.

Truly dear Friends, we have abundant cause humbly to bow before the Lord — under a sense of his mercy to us, unworthy as we are of the least of his favours.

It has been with us a subject of deep concern at this time, that we may all become more and more deeply rooted, and established in the unchangeable truths of the Gospel: that we may know our feet firmly planted on the alone sure foundation which Jesus, the Rock of ages — and being concerned to walk in the Light, as children of the Light — we may be enabled to bring forth the blessed fruits of the Spirit.

The oppressed and afflicted people of colour still continue to claim our sympathies and attention; yet we have been made renewedly sensible that of ourselves we can do nothing but that it is only as the Lord is graciously pleased to assist our feeble efforts, that we can acceptably plead our cause. Let us then dear friends seek after divine assistance; let us repair to the watch tower, and by humbly waiting, seek for that state of mind in which we are enabled to reflect into the Father of mercies, to hasten the day in which liberty shall be proclaimed to the captive, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are bound; the support of this, as of our other Christian testimonies, remains to be dear to us — yet we desire for you, and for ourselves, that we be preserved from leaning in our own strength, or attempting to give our testimony to the world without maintaining the declaration of Whittier except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain who build it.

The story of the suffering of the faithful in the American slave states, some painful specimens, which has called forth much instructive counsel: and we have

been tenderly admonished to endeavor so to dwell under the humbling influence of that Spirit that works by love and purifies the heart, that the prevailing language may be glory to God in the highest - on earth peace and good will towards men.

The Yearly Meeting has been long, and we trust in great degree moved by the Shepherd of Israel - who has been mercifully present from time to time to spread over us the canopy of His love, to the comfort and strength of many minds.

We have had the acceptable company of our dear friend Elizabeth Robson from Seatons Vale, with divine friends from neighboring Yearly Meetings, whose labors amongst us have been to our edification and encouragement.

With the salutation of love we are your friends.

Signed in and on behalf of the New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, held at Newport, by adjournments from the 16th of the 6th mo. to the 23rd of the same inclusive day
Hannah Gould Secy. & Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

In a measure of that love which is ancient and new and which unites together the household of faith, we are induced to address you and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable epistle. As far as we wish to face in a life, as to evidences of Christian concern for the suffering of another heart to strengthen and encourage when they proceed from the source of divine life. Oh the importance of dwelling near this Heavenly Spring - this enriching fountain - it is only here that we can expect to be preserved in a state of acceptance with Him, who gives power to the faint, and to those who have no might increases strength. A state of humble waiting upon the Lord, of childlike dependence upon the instruction and guidance of His Holy Spirit, remains to be the only way whereby we can receive qualification for usefulness in His house, and be more instrumental through the aid of His

peace, in building one another up in the most holy faith.
We encourage our friends to gather here - then though
discouragements may abound and the way may seem dif-
ficult, yet, by abiding in patience, in quietness possessing
your souls, not putting forth a hand to bid them, though
perils may appear to await - the ancient of days will
arise for your help - the sun of righteousness will shine
through the clouds that may have gathered around you,
and the healing, restoring influences of His beams will
be mercifully felt; and some among you, who may be
cast down and deeply pierced, will yet have to rejoice
in the Lord, and be led forth with peace.

This our Annual assembly has been large, and we
trust measurably moved by the great Lord of the Church.
We cordially respond to the remarks contained in
your epistle relative to the responsible station of fathers,
may those both with you and us, upon whom this
important trust devolves be encouraged to seek for
that wisdom which is profitable to direct, and through
watchfulness and prayer become increasingly qualified
to train up their tender offspring in the nurture and
admonition of the Lord, looking forward in humble
confidence that when the great Shepherd shall appear
and call them to account for the souls committed to
their care, they may be able to present them with this
consoling evidence "we have done what we could."

May the tender, tho' visited children among you who
are seeking after the precious milk of the Word be in-
duced to bow in humble submission before Him who
will endue them with strength to enter into covenant
by sacrifice - and thus through the obedience of faith
their minds will be prepared to receive, nourishment
and grace, and grow in grace, and in the saving knowl-
edge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Be loved we salute you and bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf of the meeting

Samuel Gouldman. Secy.

To Virginia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.
 Dear Sisters,

We may acknowledge that it is in unmerited mercy that we are again permitted to meet in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and in the fresh feeling of that love which unites us together in the fellowship of Christ we are induced again to address you, humbly believing that the great Head of the Church has been pleased to own our feeble efforts in performing his work who said: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life: and seeing that he still regardeth his Church and people, giving power to the faint and increasing strength to those who have no might, may we all be encouraged to cast our care upon him, who careth for us; continuing in the ability afforded to labour for the prosperity of Zion, and the enlargement of his borders, that we may be kept in the unity of the spirit and bond of peace.

In contemplating the present state of our ^{religious} Society we humbly trust, that under the baptizing power of truth, some of our grounds have been renew'dly ~~baptized~~ ^{baptized} introduced into exercise and deep feeling on account of the deficiencies which are apparent amongst us — and having through divine mercy felt the present to be a season of renewed encouragement to the faithful, we can say, may the burden be ever when we strengthened in an holy vigilance to be found filling up their measure of suffering and of usefulness for the body's sake, which is the Church — and may the beloved youth be increasingly animated to keep the eye of the mind single to light of truth, and enabled to step forward in the obedience of faith.

The people of colour still claim our sympathy, and we have felt a tender solicitude that Friends every where may be enabled to move in the sweetness of wisdom and opening of truth, to aid in the amelioration of their sufferings and promoting the emancipation of this much injured part of the human family.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson from Great Britain, and

several friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings
and the reputation of the same is spreading far and
wide in the land and by direct and indirect means.
Hannah Goulds Jun^r Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

May grace, mercy and peace from God the Father,
and our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all is the salutation
of our hearts towards you. Your acceptable epistle of last
year is a renewed evidence that the Truth speaks the same
language, and that the exercises and conflicts attendant
on the Christian's journey are similar in every place. Thus
it is that by one Spirit, these are all baptized into one body,
and have been made to drink into one Spirit. These realize
the consolations that flow from the witness of a true
and strong, in proportion as they dwell low and humble
before the Lord. "The meek will He guide in judgment, and
the meek will He teach His way." The receipt is not above
his master, nor the servant above his Lord. In a state of humble
watchfulness of simple obedience, there is peace and safety.
By keeping the eye singly directed to the unerring guide, the
light of divine life, the path is made plain before us, and as
we continue to keep in this blessed way, which continues to be
the same that was appointed for and pursued by the primi-
tive believers, our Faith will become increasingly confirmed
and our feet established upon the everlasting foundation of
truth of ages.

May those both with you and us, who feel at seasons the
weight of tribulation and cast down, be encouraged to renew
their confidence in Him who, by His Holy Spirit has quickened
their minds, and answered them with His choicest gifts, has
illuminated their paths and qualified them to become witnesses
to the world. For as He will never forsake them, and to ad-
vance the work of Redemption in their hearts, He has seen
meet to pour out to by their many ways. May their let
judgment have its freest work, in such humility and pure
tion of heart look towards the rock from whence they receive

been, to the help of the pit whence they were digged, as their
 wait patiently upon them, He will rise for their help, He
 will raise mountains from before them. He will put new
 songs into their mouths - even "praises unto our God" - many
 shall see it and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

May those in the younger walks of life be encouraged
 faithfully to maintain our various Christian testimony,
 and by a close adherence to the faith once delivered to the
 Saints, become qualified and engaged to unite with their
 dear friends in promoting the work of righteousness and
 peace: thus will you realize in your own experience that
 light is drawn for the righteous and gladness for the up-
 right in heart.

We have had the acceptable company of our beloved
 friends Thomas and Elizabeth Roberts at this Yearly
 Meeting and also that of our dear friend Daniel Wheeler -
 their gospel labours have been strengthening and en-
 couraging to us.

In true sisterly love we remain your friends
 signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Goulds Secy & Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
 Dear Friends,

The reading of your acceptable epistle of 10th month
 last was a renewed evidence of the unity of the Spirit in the
 bond of peace. as we are concerned to "walk by the same
 rule" and "mind the same thing", we speak one language,
 and are favoured to wait for ability to do the little that may
 be required at our hands, in simplicity and singleness of heart,
 in which the Scripture testimony is verified, that "as the
 eye of the servant is on his master, and the eye of the
 maiden to her mistress, so wait we upon thee O God."

Our annual Meeting is large, and we have been
 enabled to realize that however unworthy we are of this
 favour, there has been a little help mercifully afforded,
 solemnizing our spirit, and a humbling sense
 that there is a necessity for us to dwell more low, that

the dominion and power of the ever blessed truth may be manifest among us as a people, showing forth His praise, who said "Behold I send thee out little flock, for it is your father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

In a view of the present state of our religious society, we feel that there are causes that do let and hinder in the promotion of Truth and Righteousness, and the burdened souls go mourning on their way, interceding for that mercy in Christ Jesus, which can alone help our infirmities, and enable us to hold fast the possession of our faith without wavering.

The encouragement we feel in a view of the interesting portion of our Assembly who are in the morning of life, animates us with a hope that many of them are appreciating their privileges, and are concerned to number their blessings and apply their hearts to wisdom, that under the teachings of the Holy Spirit they may be enabled to overcome evil with good, and enter into covenant by sacrifice, thus proving their faith by their works.

The company and religious labours of our dear friends, Elizabeth Gibson from England, and those from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, have been strengthening to us at the present time, believing it to be a great favour that the feet of the passengers are still turned towards us, affording us renewed evidence that the Lord is still mindful of us as a people.

With a salutation of love we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting,

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters,

Under a renewed sense of our own insufficiency for any good word or work, some of our minds have been clothed with a degree of thankfulness in the belief that He who hath promised to be strength in weakness, and a present help in the needful time, has encouraged to be near during the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, enabling us to transact the business that has come before us in Harmony: and we believe

that as we are concerned patiently to wait upon Him, He will condescend to teach us of his ways, and guide us in the paths of judgment.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th mo last was accompanied with a feeling evidence of the continued loving-kindness and tender mercy of Him who slumbereth not, but condescends to minister to our necessities, and it is under a lively sense of our unmerited blessings we are bound to acknowledge, that however causes do exist that in their effects have been sorrowful in dividing in Jesus, and scattering in Israel, we are comforted in believing that as we are made willing in humility and lowliness to submit to the refining process of redeeming love, we shall be mercifully favoured to bring forth fruit, and that our fruit shall remain.

The deeply interesting ^{subject} of Slavery, and of Indian concerns have been feelingly spread before us at this time, and friends encouraged to keep to the unerring guidance of the Spirit of truth, that we act in accordance with the peaceable principles we profess: bearing those suffering and degraded people on our hearts, and thereby be prepared, when way may open, to do what we can for the amelioration of their condition, and to promote their emancipation.

The acceptable company of our beloved Friend Elizabeth Robson from Great Britain, and several friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, with their gospel labours have been instructive and encouraging to us at this time.

In much sisterly regard we remain your friends.
Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting.

Hannah Gould Secy. Clerk.

To this Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Sisters,

We trust it is a degree of that love by which the disciples of our Blessed Redeemer are distinguished & that we now feel engaged to address you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 9th mo last. We believe that these testimonials of Christian fellowship tend, not

only to bind us together in hospitality, but also to increase our diligence in the discharge of our various important duties.

Our minds have been deeply exercised at this time on account of the many deficiencies acknowledged in the answers to the Queries. Much worthy counsel has been imparted, encouraging us to persevere faithfully in maintaining our Christian testimonies, seeking at all times, that wisdom which is profitable to direct, and endeavoring to draw near to the divine fountain from whence alone it is to be derived, according to the instructions of our Divisor - Abide in me and I in you. "For the branch cannot bear fruit except it abide in the Vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me."

We earnestly desire an increase of that love and unity in which we can labor together for our own benefit, and for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth; and that by a deep indwelling of Spirit, we may be preserved on that foundation which standeth sure having this pearl, the Lamb knoweth them that are His.

The daily reading of the Holy Scriptures in our families, has been impressively recommended; believing it to be a practice, which when rightly performed, tends to increase our spiritual strength and to confirm us in the faith once delivered to the Saints.

We desire that mothers, both with you and us, may be encouraged to faithfully in training their precious offspring in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, remembering that it is only as we seek counsel of him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not," that we can become instrumental in promoting their religious improvement and early establishment in the truth. Let us not seek to lay up for them treasure upon earth but rather teach them to seek the enduring riches of Heaven: setting forth by our own example the consistency of that Christian life, which leadeth to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

24.
Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and we gratefully acknowledge the many vicinities we have received that the Lord hath not forgotten his people, but that He is still the good Shepherd of his flock. We have been comforted by the serious deportment of the younger part of our Society now present; many of whom if they abide under the forming hand of the Lord, will we trust, become qualified to fill the places assigned them in the Church, when those who have long been among the faithful labourers, may be removed from work to reward.

The situation of the people of colour, is a subject of continued exercise with many amongst us and we trust there are not a few who remembering them that are in bonds as bound with them" endeavour under the guidance of the Spirit of truth, faithfully to maintain our testimony against slavery."

The subject of the civilization of the Indians beyond the Mississippi, presented to the meeting by the report of our Committee on Indian concerns, has claimed our serious attention and we hope that with our brethren and sisters of other Yearly Meetings, we may be made instrumental in doing them good.

With the salutation of love, we bid you farewell—

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting—
Hannah Goulds Sec^y Clerk.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Beloved friends,

On the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last, in this our Annual Assembly, some of our minds were made powerfully sensible of the preciousness of that love which unites in a spiritual relationship the members of the Church of Christ, however widely separated they may be in their various natural allotments: in the fresh feeling of this love we have desired that all may, by its holy influence, be strengthened and encouraged to dwell very near to its

divine fountain.

Many of us, in this day, have frequently to experience much deep conflict and trial, not only on our own account, but also, according to our measure, in consideration of the low state of the Church, and in consequence of the acknowledgment that there is much to be done in the world. We are sometimes reminded that the Lord is with us, that he careth for his flock, that he at times digneth to lead them beside the still waters, and feed them with the green pastures, and when he commands his own appointed followers to abide in his love, to abide together. We are also, I am glad, through faith and charity to realise the truth and the Excellency of this Apostolic fellowship. - Be ye steadfast, immovable, always abiding in the word of the Lord, as ye have heard your labour is not in vain in the Lord, for he that soweth to the end, the same shall be saved. We desire that every slave in Society may, through watchfulness unto prayer be strengthened to hold fast the profession in truth without wavering, - and through divine mercy be favoured to experience an inward communion with the Lord and enabled to say as did the primitive believers, "truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and many of our beloved younger sisters have assisted with us, to whom counsel and encouragement have been affectionately extended, and we thankfully acknowledge that the presence of these dear friends has been a great blessing to the Body of the Church; and although we have to lament that many successful appearances with an angel we yet we have been favoured to attend to the important concerns of Society, which have been before us in much happiness and love.

We have then a request to many of our friends to leave that the people of colour still claim your attention and care, and with you we desire that every proper exertion may be made to promote the liberation, instruction and Christian advancement of this much injured part of

the human family. We also desire that a Clipping may attend
your exertions to aid in the improvement of those Indian
tribes that have long been a subject of interest and attention
to you.

We have at the time had the acceptable company of
our beloved friend Elizabeth Nelson from Great Britain,
and several dear friends from neighbouring Early Wabing.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the collecting

Hannah Gould Jun^r & Co. P.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, held at Newport, in adjournments from the 15th of the 6th month to the 17th of the same inclusive, 1840.

Second day morning met agreeably to the conclusion of last year, and after a season of retirement proceeded to business, and being furnished with accounts from all our Quarterly Meetings their representatives are viz.

Rhode Island. Elizabeth Bacher, Hannah Dennis, Anna A. Jenkins, Lydia Wilbur, Mary Shove and Lois Anthony.

Salem. Mehitable Hosson, Lydia Reed, Cynthia W. Huntington, Elizabeth R. Nichols, Hannah Collins, Sophronia Page, and Alice Page.

Sandwich. Ruth Potter, Phoebe P. Gifford, Edy P. Little, Phoebe Coffin, Rose Kelly, Rachel Gardner, Mary Howland, Anne Macomber, Susan Howland and Anna D. Wing.

Smithfield. Hannah Arnold, Phoebe S. Marsh, Mary B. Allen, Ruth Foy and Susanna Castill.

Talnooth. Hannah W. Jones, Phoebe Cobb, Lydia J. Tuttle, Mary Ramsdell, Anne Parinton and Anne Winslow.

Walsborough. Ann Jones, Joanna Meader, Sybil Jones, Margaret Varney, Eunice Nichols and Hannah Pope.

Dover. Mary T. Brown, Alice Rathbun, Salome C. Brackett, and Lydia A. Varney. Who being called are all present except four, for the nonattendance of whom acceptable reasons were forwarded to the meeting.

By accounts from our respective Quarterly Meetings we are informed, that Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Upbridge Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Phoebe S. Marsh to the station of an Elder, that Walsborough Quarterly Meeting has united with Unity Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Elizabeth Little, and Elizabeth Cole, and with Sidway Monthly in appointing Phoebe Taylor to the station of Elders.

Our friends Hannah Arnold, Mary Howland, Mary Bates and Anne Durinton, Ann R. Wins and Phoebe Smith are appointed to prepare a Summary from the answers to the queries and present at a future sitting of this meeting.

Acceptable Epistles from our beloved sisters of New York, Ohio and North Carolina Yearly Meetings, have been received, and read to our comfort and encouragement, and we have selected our friends Susan Howland, Abigail Patten, Anna S. Jenkins, Mary B. Allen, Sarah H. Wiley, Eunice Nichols, Hannah Arnold, Hannah Collins, Lydia Brewster, Huldah Gifford, Elizabeth Peckham, Phoebe R. Gifford, Sophronia Page, Mary Stone, Hannah H. Emerson, Rachel B. Holder, Mary S. Babitt, Sarah Barnard, Elizabeth Meader, Lydia B. Capron and Hannah Gould to take into consideration the subject of address^{ing} our friends of other Yearly Meetings, and if way opens therefor, prepare Essays, and present when ready.

We adjourn to the hour our men friends may conclude to meet this afternoon.

Second day afternoon, met at the 4th hour.

The representatives reported that they met, and were united in proposing Hannah Gould Sen^r for Clerk, and Susan Howland assistant: the nomination was acceptable to the Meeting and they are appointed to that service.

Devil Epistles from the Yearly Meetings at Philadelphia, Virginia and Indiana, with the London printed Epistle containing caution counsel and information have been read at this time to our satisfaction and instruction.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may conclude to meet tomorrow.

Third day morning met at the 9th hour.

The Queries and Answers were read, in connexion with a Summary therefrom (prepared by the friends who were appointed for that purpose yesterday,) on a view of the state of our Society thus exhibited many minds were brought under painful exercise.

An interesting Report of the Boarding School Committee was read and is as follows.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The School Committee report, that they have endeavored during the past year to attend to the service to which they were appointed by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of scholars, for the year, has been eighty six; for the past term, one hundred and eighteen. Meetings for divine worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations, and harmony has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Oliver Wing continue to serve accept as Superintendents. Samuel Austin and Pliny Chase are employed as Teachers in the male department, and Emmeline Frost and Elizabeth Osborn, in the female school. Jonathan S. Stocum has been engaged in the Institution as a Teacher during the past year, and Charles H. Coffin, Jun^r and Sarah J. Brown as Assistant Teachers during the last term. Georgeth Read continues to give instruction in the Languages, and to have charge of the accounts.

The Treasurers' and Superintendents' accounts have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded its expenditures by \$3,444.51, by which we are enabled to liquidate the debt of the Institution reported last year, and leave in the Treasury a balance of \$1,126.84. We do not think it expedient, however, to propose to the Yearly Meeting any considerable reduction in the terms of the admission of scholars, as the situation of the house and premises is such that a pretty large expenditure will soon be required for repairs and improvements. For details of the receipts and expenses we refer to a copy of the Superintendents' account, herewith forwarded.

Our scholars have enjoyed the privilege of the charitable fund the last term, and the same number may be received for the next winter term, and Monthly Meetings are requested to forward their applications for this privilege, by the time of the meeting of the Sub-Committee, on the 29th of 9th month next.

We would propose that the price per term, for admission of members of this Yearly Meeting, be \$30, commencing with the ensuing winter term: for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members,

(should any such by subscription be received to amount to \$45; and for members of the Board, \$50, and that \$10 per term additional charge should still be made for instruction in the languages. Stationery and books, except such as are required for the study of the higher branches of Mathematics and the Languages) we would propose, should continue to be furnished at the expense of the Institution.

In the discharge of the duties that have devolved upon us in the direction of the concerns of the School, we have been desirous to keep steadily in view the original design of Friends in its establishment, viz. "the imparting to the youth of our Society a religious, guarded education, free from the contaminating influences of the world." While situated in this Institution we feel that parents have a right to expect that their children will be in a good degree preserved from the hurtful things that abound in the world; that tender minds will not receive impressions calculated to lessen their attachment either to the principles of our religious Society, or to the testimonies founded upon them. The press at the present day teems with publications, many of which are such as concerned parents would be unwilling should be placed within reach of their children; and to maintain our Christian discipline, by restraining, so far as we are able, "from the reading of pernicious books," has appeared to us to be an important duty to be exercised by the Committee, and which we believe has rested with weight upon those who have been under the appointment, since the first establishment of the School. The time for which most of the Scholars are placed in the Institution being limited, and necessarily mostly occupied in pursuing their regular studies, much opportunity is not afforded for general reading; and as the School is furnished with a valuable Library, consisting of not less than fourteen hundred volumes of well selected books, received principally from the bequests of our late beloved Friends Moses and Hadwich Bacon, to which the children have free access, we thought it proper in the 11th month last, after carefully considering what books and publications it was best to use and receive into the School, to adopt the following

regulation, viz. "Believing that the Library of this Institution together with the books and periodicals that have already been approved by this Committee, will afford the means for as great a variety of reading as the time and best interests of the pupils will require, it is our judgment that it is not expedient to extend the number at the present time; but that any books or publications bought by the scholars, or sent to them, be laid aside and preserved for them until they leave the school; or if deemed best by the Superintendents, forwarded to their parents or guardians."

While ^{by} adhering to this rule, we are aware that many writings are excluded with which we have no controversy, yet with the exercise of a sufficient liberality on the part of the Committee in the admission of those that will be likely to be productive of usefulness, we apprehend its adoption will not be deemed oppressive, but we trust it will prove a relief and satisfaction to many parents in different sections of the Yearly Meeting, who wish to place their children in the School.

During the past year, with the exception of the latter part of the last term, when the measles prevailed extensively but mildly in the house, the various inmates of the family have been favoured with the enjoyment of nearly uninterrupted good health, which mercy, among the many we have received, calls for gratitude to Him from whom cometh all our blessings.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee

Boarding School, 5th Mo. 8d, 1840. Samuel Boyd Voley, Clerk.

This report is acceptable to Friends as manifested by a full and free expression of satisfaction on hearing it read: and it being proposed to reappoint the same Friends who constituted the Committee last year it was united with and they are appointed accordingly, with the exception of one recently removed by death.

We adjourn to the 4th hour this afternoon.

And so afternoon, next pursuant to adjournment.

A Declaration of the views of Friends in relation to Church Government, prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings in the Christ month last has been read in this Meeting. Much anxiety was manifested and we believe it to be seasonable, and peculiarly adapted to aid and assist our efforts in maintaining

and applying the salutary Discipline established by our early Friends.

The Committee under appointment to consider the proposition for dividing Wapalborough Quarterly Meeting presented the following Report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in 1838, and continued last year on a proposition from Wapalborough Quarterly Meeting, for a division of that Meeting, Report, that they have during the past year, given some attention to their appointment, and are united in proposing that the subject be continued another year under the care of a Committee.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6th Mo. 15, 1840

John Meader,

Hannah Collins.

This Report was accepted and after some deliberation the same Friends who had the subject in charge are appointed to continue their attention thereto and report next year.

We adjourn to the time our new Friends may conclude to meet tomorrow

Fourth day morning, met at half past ten.

A Declaration of the views of the Society of Friends regarding Civil Government, prepared by the meeting for Sufferings in the third month last was read and united with in this meeting.

We adjourn to the fifth hour this afternoon

Fourth day afternoon, met near the time adjourned to.

Epays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and New York have been read, approved and signed.

A Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed in 1837, and since continued, to visit subordinate Meetings and individuals as way might open, and circumstances in their judgment require, made the following report viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

The Committee appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and individuals as way might open for, Report, that several of their men have, from time to time, given such

attention to their appointment as circumstances seemed to require, and have labored with that ability which was afforded to sustain the good order of our religious Society.

The Love in "Baltimore Quarterly Meetings" especially referred to their care, received their attention, and the labour they bestowed, they believe resulted to a good degree of satisfaction. The Committee are willing to suggest to the Quarterly Meetings the propriety, in the present state of Society, of appointing a Committee to assist and advise such Meetings, and members, as circumstances may require and way open for which is submitted.

On behalf of the Committee

Newport Nov. 1st 1840

Thomas Anthony,
Elizabeth Wing.

The report was acceptable and being deliberately considered we have appointed our friends Elizabeth Wing, Olive Wing, Hannah Dennis, Hannah Collins, Mary T. Allen, Hannah & David Patience, Cate and Lybil Jones to join our new friends in selecting the names of some friends to constitute a Committee for the ensuing year and report them at a future sitting.

We adjourn to the time our new friends may meet tomorrow 2nd day afternoon just near the 4th house.

Extracts of Epistles to the Quarterly Meetings of London, Ohio, Baltimore and Indiana were read approved and signed.

The friends appointed yesterday to bring in the names for a Committee to visit subordinate meetings &c have proposed the following friends viz. Mary Howland, Anna & Ephraim, Hannah Collins, Hannah Dennis, Elizabeth Wing, & Mary B. Allen & David, Elizabeth & Hester, Anne Furinton, Hannah Gould, Susan Howland, Mary Wing (of Sandwich), Ruth Davis, Olive Wing, Hannah & Jones, Lybil Jones, Mary T. Brown, Ann Jones, Sarah & Tuttle, and Mable T. T. Somers. This nomination being satisfactory to the meeting they were appointed to extend a general care for the preservation of love and unity among our members, and the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and in

that matter that may be referred to, to assist and conduct such meetings and members as circumstances may require, and may also be, under the direction of the Society and were requested to report to the meeting next year.

Our beloved friend Joseph John Turner being about to return to his family and home, a Certificate on his behalf was read, united with and the Clerk decided to sign it on behalf of the meeting.

A testimonial to the worth, usefulness, and religious services of our dear deceased brother Daniel Wheeler was communicated to this meeting appended to an Epistle from our men friends to London Yearly Meeting. The loss of this our beloved friend is painfully affecting but the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be his holy name.

A little essay comprising some portion of the exercise which has prevailed amongst us has been prepared and read and the Clerk was directed to subscribe thereto the article respecting Daniel Wheeler, and sign the same on behalf of the meeting and forward it with transcripts of Epistles received at this time to our respective Quarterly Meetings.

During the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, the love of our Heavenly Father has no doubt been extended to us, and truly some experiences were had to excite a sense of thankfulness, and of desire for continued preservation and strength: and under the prevalence of increased love to Him from whom are all our blessings, and in a renewed feeling of Christian fellowship one with another, we conclude, proposing if permitted to meet at the usual time and place next year.

Hannah Gould Secy. Clerk.

From our hearty Meeting of Women Friends, held at New York, for New England, by adjournments from the 14th to the 19th of Oct. M. inclusive 1840 - To its Subordinate Meetings.

Since assembling together at this time, the language of the Psalmist has we trust been comforting to many amongst us - "How great is thy goodness which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee, which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men." May this salutary fear be the clothing of our minds, and then we may say in sincerity, though my heart and my flesh faileth me: yet is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever." We are renewedly sensible, that though encompassed with weakness, the Spring of divine life is open to all who rightly seek its restoring influence, and that the Lord is rich unto all that call upon Him: we desire to be grateful receivers of even the smallest evidences of His favour; and by an increased devotion to His cause and service, avail ourselves of the privilege of coming unto Him, in living faith, seeing that things of eternal duration are comprised in obedience to His will.

Many deficiencies are apparent on a view of the state of Society as spread before us in the answers to the Queries, and we are solicitous that all our dear Friends may centre to their respective gifts, however small they may esteem them, whether they are such as call for active service, or secret spiritual exercise: by an individual attention herts we should realize that harmony so precious in the Christian compact, and be edified together in love: then should we become qualified to speak suitably to an erring sister, and our endeavours to restore them would result to our own peace, and the effect be felt by those on whose account we are concerned to labour, "Reproof where just, and properly administered is an useful and beautiful part of friendship."

We believe a diligent attendance of our religious meetings to be inseparably connected with our progress in the truth: and we would press upon every class amongst us, the importance of faithfulness in this important duty. May we often examine ourselves and see how far we are individually contributing to a want of consistency in the support of our various testimonies, which while exists must be an occasion of stumbling to honest

inquiries, and render our labours in the Church unsuccessful.

Much exercise has prevailed that we may be preserved in truth and unity so indispensable to our spiritual health, as to eradicate every germ of that evil root which would divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel. endeavouring to cherish with the utmost vigilance that charity which thinketh no evil.

We have thought that the following, extract of an Epistle from our men friends to London Yearly Meeting, would be acceptable to many of our dear Sisters who have not had the privilege of mingling with us at this Yearly Meeting.

"It has been under deep feelings of sympathy with the surviving members of his greatly affected family, and with friends generally in your land, that tidings have been borne to us since we assembled on this Island, of the removal by death of our dear friend Daniel Wheeler, in the City of New York, on the night of the 12th inst. We deeply mourn the Church's loss in this afflictive dispensation, which has in inscrutable wisdom been permitted to befall it, by the removal of this our dear friend from works to reward; but we do not mourn as those without hope; we feel an undoubted assurance that he has become an inhabitant of those blissful shades, where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor pain: and we trust that his example of faithful and humble walking, his devotion to the cause of Truth, and the good of his fellow men, together with his peaceful close, may long continue to have an influence in stimulating others, to follow him as he was enabled to follow Christ.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

is a good long letter of 11 min. written.

The Epistolary correspondence maintained by us with our different Yearly Meetings has been a medium through which we have been comforted and strengthened at this time, affording encouragement to believe that we are owned by the Great Head of the Church in this interchange of Christian regard. And although in much weakness and fear many of us have come up to our solemn fast under a humiliating sense that we are a poor and polluted people, and that the enemy is still permitted to desire to have us, that he may sift us as wheat, we reverently believe that the availing intercession of redeeming Love has been felt. "I have prayed for thee that the faith fail not."

The state of Society as presented to our view at this time, betrays weakness and a want of religious concern in this most important duty, the attendance at our religious meetings; which is a symptom of the paralyzing influence of lukewarmness: we greatly desire we may be favoured to come under the quickening power of the Spirit of Truth, believing that in this we should feel the application of the apostolic injunction, "For sake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is" - believing that in silent worship, adoration and praise we are accepted in the divine sight.

We are animated with the belief that there are those with you and us in the morning and meridian of life who are bending their necks to the yoke of the dear Redeemer, and under the circumscribing influence of His Cross manifesting the teachings of His Holy Spirit in that of an increased concern to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. and in proportion as these are faithful to the ins'piring word of Divine Grace, they will become faithful in the field of offering and joyful in the house of prayer.

We feel, deeply feel, the want of vigilance in the support of our various testimonies, and would encourage parents and heads of families to increased watchfulness in endeavouring to lead up their dear children to the necessity of a conformity to our peculiarities, and endeavour

to convince them that the denial of self, and the daily cross will lead to the possession of the precious fruits of righteousness which are quietness and assurance forever.

We received your acceptable Epistle of last month which was read to our comfort. We regret that ours of last year was not received.

With a salutation of love we are your sisters.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Virginia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Having through divine mercy been at this time favoured to witness the fresh feeling of that love which no change can break, it is, we humbly trust, under its precious influence that we are drawn dear sisters, thus to salute you. On the reading of your acceptable Epistle, which was to our comfort and edification, we were again confirmed in the belief, that an interchange of Christlary communication tends to strengthen the bond of social friendship and that in that communion one another for good we are brought near together in that feeling which hath no fellow and are often united in prayer to desire that our faith fail not.

Although many are the trials and discouragements of the present day, we have still abundant cause to commemorate the goodness of Him who yet regardeth the low estate of His Church and people: therefore dear friends let us thank God and take courage for in the plenitude of his love he doth to give power to the faint and increaseth strength to those who have no might.

Our meeting is large many of our beloved young friends are in attendance, for whose establishment in the truth we have felt a deep and lively interest. to all of this class, whether present or absent, we would offer a word of encouragement. believing that many have so yielded to the tendering influences of the Holy Spirit as to be under the forming hand of Him who will raise up judges as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning - should conflict and trial attend your minds dear young friends let it be no cause of dismay.

the life of a Christian is a state of warfare, but those who steadily pursue the path of faith and obedience, will we humbly believe, be favoured with ability to move in their allotted sphere of usefulness, and be strengthened to stand as lights in the world.

We can thankfully acknowledge, that under the gathering influence of ancient goodness, we have been favoured at this time to attend to the weighty concerns that have come before us in much unanimity of feeling, and in the spirit of love.

Although the number of faithful labourers may appear to be few, yet we are comforted in believing, that all such will continue to feel their strength renewed in Him, who said "Fear not little flock for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." may we all endeavour to adhere to and uphold the principles and testimonies for which our forefathers suffered much, and through continued watchfulness and prayer be enabled to evince by consistent lives and conversation, that we are endeavouring to follow them, as they were engaged to follow Christ.

With the salutation of love we are your Sisters -
Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting -
Hannah Gould Sunth Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends -

Dear Sisters,

We acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable letter of 4th month last the contents of which together with others from different Friends' meetings has tended to our comfort and edification. And now in attempting to address you, we fear the insubstantiality of words without the life and power of Him who said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth the flesh, profiteth nothing - my words, they are spirit and they are life." Sensible that without Him we can do nothing that will tend to His honour, or the advancement of His cause, may we be renewedly engaged to seek in living faith for a right qualification to perform His service.

We have felt at this time that we have abundant cause to commemorate the goodness of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd, that notwithstanding our many revells and backslidings, we are

not a forsaken people. The wing of ancient goodness is still over us. the Lord in the riches of His mercy is waiting to help us, and to do us good. & they we all yield to the drawing cords of His love, which will unite us in one band and gather us into His sacred enclosure, where we shall be permitted to sit under His shadow and His fruit will be sweet to our taste.

"Many we believe feel it to be a day of close proving and peculiar trial, and that our preservation very much depends on watching unto prayer; endeavoring to dwell low that we may keep our habitation in the truth, thus shall be comforted in the assurance that help is laid upon one that is mighty to save, and able to deliver and that to the utmost, all who come unto God by them: and who blessed be his name hath not closed his springs of consolation. Therefore let none be discouraged however deeply tried. Trust upon the Lord, be of good courage and He will strengthen thee."

"To our beloved young friends we feel a tender solicitude, greatly desiring their growth and establishment in the truth - we are sensible that many temptations present to allure from the path of self-denial: but He who loveth an early sacrifice is near to strengthen every resolution to serve Him: and as those are concerned to live in His fear they will be made more than conquerors through Him who hath loved us, and gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity."

With a salutation of love we are your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Cook.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear friends,

Although we have not at this time as usual, received any communication from you, yet we feel drawn to offer you the testimony of our love and affectionate remembrance.

Since being assembled on the present interesting occasion, many of our minds have been humbled from a sense of our unworthiness, and inability of ourselves to do any thing for the advancement of the blessed cause of truth. our spirits have been centred in the view of our deplorable situation, and of the continued goodness of Him who said, "My grace is sufficient for thee, my strength"

is made perfect in weakness." The desire of our hearts has been that we may dwell very low, endeavouring to draw near to Him who "regardeth the dust of Zion, and satisfieth her poor with bread." that our confidence may be renewed, and we enabled to pursue those things that are truly excellent, and that as company, salvation.

The state of Society, as spread before us by the answers to the Queries, has brought us renewedly to feel the need there is for all our members to abide on the watch, that they may be favoured to guard against that spirit that would divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel, and be so preserved as to have our daily walking correspond with the profession we are making, that others seeing our good works may have cause to glorify our Father who is in Heaven.

Through divine mercy, during the several sittings of this Meeting, our minds have, under the humbling power of truth been prepared to assimilate in Christian fellowship, secretly craving the preservation of the body, and the advancement of the Redeemers Kingdom in the earth.

Tenent have been our aspirations that the hearts of those who hold their fellow men in bondage, may be so tendered and enlightened as to feel the necessity of obeying this sacred injunction "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them" then would the prison doors be opened and the oppressed go free — may none of us grow weary of well doing, but improve every right opening to aid in the work of emancipation.

In desire that grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied amongst us we bid you farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Sec^{ry} Clerk.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

Under a renewed sense of His goodness whose compassion fail not, and who hath promised to be with those who are gathered in His name, are we at this time encouraged to address you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of Nth month last.

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We believe that an epistolary intercourse when sustained in the power and simplicity of the truth, tends to bind together, as members one of another, and of the household of that faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart.

Our meeting is large, and with gratitude to the giver of all good we may acknowledge that He hath been pleased from time to time, to spread over us the canopy of His love, causing us renewedly to feel, that when He the good Shepherd, and Bishop of souls is graciously disposed to make a way for His dependent children, they will find to the humbling of their minds, that help is laid out on one who is mighty).

In this day of peculiar trial in which the enemy, by various stratagems, would deceive if possible the very elect, we feel the necessity of watchfulness unto prayer, and of endeavoring very often to have our minds in that quiet, waiting state, in which we may be permitted to draw near the fountain of living water, and to put our trust only in Him, in whom is no darkness. Notwithstanding the low state of things amongst us, we are comforted in believing that a succession of upright standard bearers will be raised up, who will feel bound to the law and to the testimony of truth: let none, dear friends, distrust the power, be encouraged to come up faithfully to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

The oppressed condition of the people of colour, has been brought feelingly before us, and we trust that our sympathies extend unto this portion of the human family, with fervent desires and secret aspirations to the Father of mercies that He would be pleased to hasten the day of universal freedom.

We notice with satisfaction the favourable state of your Boarding School, and much desire that you may be encouraged to extend and continue that care, which will tend to make it a blessing to the rising generation. A deep and lively interest hath been felt for those in early life both with you and us, that they may by keeping the eye of the mind single to the light of truth be enabled to walk in the straight and narrow way that leadeth unto life, giving evidence that they prefer Jerusalem above their chief joy. In conclusion, dear sisters, let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for in due time, we shall

reap if we faint not.

We salute you in sisterly regard and bid you farewell

Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clark.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends -

Dear friends,

Although we have not at this time received any letters from you, yet having been again permitted to meet in a "Heaven's" meeting capacity, the feelings we humbly trust of Gospel love has extended towards you. Under the cementing influence thereof we are inclined again to address you. "There is a path which no foot knoweth and which the Vulturnus eye hath not seen", this remains to be a safe way, enclosed from the inroads of the enemy; but in order to have our feet steadily directed within this straight and narrow path, watchful vigils unto day must be maintained. There must be unremitting diligence on our part, to kick in again the walls of defence on the right hand, and on the left. The accuser of the brethren is lying in wait; spreading his baits, and alluring into his net; though specious are his pretences and subtle are his designs be aware of his stratagems dear sisters; retain to the rock that is higher ourselves - then shall we find, through all the fluctuations and trials that may assail us, (if our feet are firmly planted on this everlasting foundation) that under its shadow we shall find protection, and as we advance step by step upon this Christian ground; we shall be enabled at seasons to realize the truth of this Scripture testimony, "Thou shalt not hurt nor destroy in my holy mountain."

We believe there are those both with you and amongst us, who dwell in low places, who feel bowed down under discouragement, and go mourning on their way; their faith at seasons closing hard, moved as so an hairs breadth; the shield that has been anointed with oil may have been laid aside; fearfulness taking hold upon them, and the conclusion be that they can no more speak in the Lord's name, or be instrumental in His cause. Unto these the animating language applies, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world". Place your confidence in Him who has been with you in heights and in depths, gird on

the amount of light: hold fast that which ye have received. He is
whom ye have believed, communicate mightily to save: He will put
a new song into your mouths even that of Great and merciful
our Heavenly Father, God, at length, just and true are all thy songs
O thou King of Saints.

May the aged with you and with us be comforted, the middle
aged strengthened, and the precious youth encouraged to submit to
the forming hand of the Lord; that thus the work of our day may
be accomplished, and when the chief Shepherd shall appear we
may receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

This our annual Assembly hath been large, and we trust
moved by the Great Head of the Church. With the salutation of love
we remain your sisters in the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting:
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

We have gratefully to acknowledge that in this our annual
Assembly we have been favoured to derive encouragement from the
strength imparted to our minds through the medium of silent
waiting, and to realize a measure of the unity of the Spirit in
the bond of peace: may this very important Christian testimony
continue to claim our attention, that in a silent introversion
of Spirit we may be abundantly confirmed of the salutary
effect of obeying the divine command - "Be still and know that
I am God." And when a knowledge of Himself is thus imme-
diately manifested, how precious the covering! filling the temple
with His presence - for in the Lord's presence there is life, and at
his right hand rivers of pleasure flow on.

In commemoration of the many mercies conferred upon us,
unworthy as we are, we are encouraged to believe that there is
preserved, here and there, a living remnant who have not bowed
the knee to Baal, but are exercised in Spirit for the prosperity
of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders, preferring persecution
to their chiefest joy; and while we mourn a departure from the
pure principle of life and love, we are at seasons comforted with

this language of our blessed Redeemer. To Sam with you always even unto the end of the world. May we dear friends in a renewed exercise of mind before the Father, full of sure mercies keep us to them the word the truth and the life. That however befallen our allotted path may be we have the constant assurance that tribulation worketh patience, patience experience, and experience hope that hope that maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in the heart."

A large number of our beloved young friends are assembled at this time. The prospect has been cheering to our drooping minds, in an apparent interest, and humble dedication of some of them to apprehended duty, affording encouragement to believe that the cards of Zion will lengthened, and her stakes strengthened.

Our attention has been awakened to a lively sense of the importance of love and unity, believing that without these it is in vain to attempt to exercise faith towards God, seeing that "faith works by love to the purifying of the heart" and that the preservation of good order and the success of our whole cause depends on the existence of that love which is the fulfilling of the law and which was so abundantly manifested in the example and precepts of our Holy Redeemer.

How acceptable these are a comfort and encouragement to us, believing that an evil day is necessary, and that it remains in need of Christian fellowship, and has a tendency to stir up the pure mind by way of remembrance.

With feelings of sisterly regard we are your friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

Truly the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His. Precious is the evidence to a Believer in Jesus that this witness is within, great is the necessity for these to dwell near to the fountain of life, which alone will preserve from the shores of death. etc

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is only, by continuing, day by day in a lively, watchful frame
of mind that the Divine life is sustained. Though we may
have been greatly favoured, and though the aid of our Heavenly
Father have attained to a considerable degree of Christian ex-
perience, yet if we are not vigilant, and still engaged to pro-
ceed, towards the mark for the prize, we are very liable
to miss our way, to substitute darkness for light, and
light for darkness. Our profession is a dignified one. It
is high and holy, and while it leads out of the spirit and
maxims of the world, it clothes the mind of every consist-
ent member with that charity which is the fruit of the Spirit
in which rejoiced in the truth. This being the badge of
discipleship, the bond of union, it may no means closes
the vision to a right discernment. For the more deeply im-
bued we become with the nature of Him of whom it is
testified that "Righteousness shall be the guide of His
loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins." We shall
be increasingly quick of understanding in the fear of
the Lord: this preserving fear will keep us humble, we
shall be especially careful of submitting after the sight of
the eye, or repeating after the hearing of the ear: but in
the meekness of wisdom, shall give a good conversation,
and by the regulating and enriching influence of Divine
love, our Christian example will have a tendency to gather
to the exalted standard of truth the inexperienced and
the wavering. May we dear sisters be renewedly engaged
very often to draw near together in spirit to the mercy-seat,
when the overshadowing wing of ancient goodness may
be extended over us, and abiding received awaiting to in-
crease for ourselves, one with one, and for those who are
ready to faint by the way. Many there are of this descrip-
tion in the present day for whom we may put up our
petitions that their faith fail not.

We desire the encouragement of the middle and young
classes both with you and among us, that they may
be faithful in bearing the cross of Christ, in submitting
to the powerful operation of the word of His power, which
separates the chaff from the wheat, and prepares for use -

fulnefs in the militant Church.

The annual assembly has been large, and measurably owned by the Shepherd of Israel.

Your acceptable Epistle of 4th month last was received and with those from our sisters at other Yearly Meetings have been strengthening to many minds.

With feelings of sisterly regard we are ever yours,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 11th to the 17th of 6th month inclusive 1841.

Second day morning met agreeably to the conclusion of last year, and after a season of waiting proceeded to business.

Being furnished with accounts from our Quarterly Meetings the representatives therefrom are Viz.

Rhode Island — Ann Hopkins, Lois Anthony, Anna Shore, Amy Knowles, Olive Wing and Elizabeth Meaders.

Salem — Mary Page, Susan L. Brown, Lydia Brud and Sophronia Page.

Sandwich — Susan Howland, Ruth H. Baker, Eddy Little, Mary Davis, Abigail Davis, Rachel Gardner, Susanna Gardner, Beulah Rogers, Mary Gifford, Barbara Gifford and Anna D. Wing.

Smithfield — Katherine Comstock, Lydia E. Chase, Lydia O'Kelly, Abigail Inman and Rachel F. Holders.

Halmouth — Eunice Jones, Anne Parinton, Abigail Horton, Content Meader, Lydia Allen and Lydia Jones.

Vassalborough — Sybil Jones, Margaret Patchiff, Eunice Nichols & Eunice M. Fawcett.

Dover — Ann Elang, Hannah Plauger, Beulah B. Hoag and Alice Rathbun.

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Who being called are all present excepting three, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were given.

By accounts received at this time we are informed that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting had united with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting in appointing Susan Ann Buffum to the station of an Elder. That Falmouth Quarterly Meeting had united with Wyndham Monthly Meeting in approving the gift and public appearances in the Ministry of Lydia Allen. That Walsborough Quarterly Meeting had united with Sidney Monthly Meeting in acknowledging the gift and public appearances in the Ministry of George Richardson, and with Litchfield Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Charlotte Wingate to the station of an Elder.

Certificates from their respective meetings for our friends Huldah Hoag, Phoebe C. Haines, Elizabeth Pittfield, Susan R. Smith and Hannah Hillman, all of whom are in attendance of this Yearly Meeting, have been read at this time.

We have appointed our friends Mary Howland, Ann Hopkins, Mary Taber, Sarah T. Tobey and Elizabeth Hill to prepare a Summary to the answers and present when ready.

Lively and acceptable Epistles from our beloved sisters of Ohio, New York, Indiana, North Carolina, Virginia and Baltimore Yearly Meetings, which were read to our comfort and encouragement after deliberating on the subject we have selected our friends Alice Rathbun, Annas A. Jenkins, Susan Howland, Ruth Davis, Elizabeth Meader, Mary W. Allen, Beulah Rogers, Ann Hopkins, Mary Shove, Lydia Breed, Sarah T. Tobey, Mary E. Breed, Ann E. Lang, Sybil Jones, Huldah W. Hoag, Eunice Nichols Eunice Jones, Anna Bates, Anne Purington, Lydia Allen and Hannah Gould Jr. to prepare essays of Epistles to our friends of other Yearly Meetings if way should open therefor and present them to a future sitting of this Meeting.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet this afternoon. Second day afternoon, met at the set hour.

The representatives having met and conferred on the subject of Clerk and Assistant, proposed Hannah Gould Junr. for Clerk and Susan Howland assistant, this nomination being satisfactory to the meeting they are appointed to that service.

Certificates and copies of minutes on behalf of our friends, Isaac B. Broun, Lino Carpenter, Jeremiah Hubbard, Richard C. Thomas, William Timeworthy, Joseph Snowden and Eli Haines have been read, all expressive of the unity of their respective Meetings in their present engagement - the aforesaid friends are all in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

An Epistle from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has been received and read at this time - together with the London printed Epistle of 1840 - containing instructive counsel and weighty remarks which we desire may be individually treasured up to our instruction.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow.
Third day morning met near the 10th hour.

The Queries with answers from our several Quarterly Meetings in connection with a Summary collected therefrom by the Committee appointed thereof yesterday have been read at this time. the Summary is as follows viz

We adjourn to the time our men friends may conclude to meet.

Third day afternoon met at the 4th hour.

The Annual Report of the Boarding School Committee has been read, was satisfactory to Friends, and is as follows viz

To the Yearly Meeting

The Committee appointed to superintend the various concerns of the Boarding School, Report, That they have endeavored during the past year, to attend to the important business confided to them by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of scholars in the Institution has been eighty five. Meetings for religious worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations; and harmony, we believe, has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Olive King continue to occupy the place of superintendents, accountable to us. Samuel Rust and Joseph W. Aldrich are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emmeline Aldrich and Rebecca Chipman in the Girls'. George H. Read continues to have charge of the Books, and to instruct in the languages. Pious E. Chase has been employed as a Teacher during the past year, and

If the Summary omitted in its proper place may be found at the end of the book.

Charles W. Nichols, Elizabeth W. Osborne and Lydia Earle, each, one term.

The Treasurers and Superintendents' accounts have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded its expenditures by \$1066.38 cents, and that there is now a balance in the Treasury of \$2203.15 cents. Twenty two hundred and twenty dollars and seventeen cents have been expended in various repairs on the buildings and furniture for the house, and as many additional repairs and improvements are required about the house and farm, we do not consider it expedient to propose any change in the price of admission from that of last year, viz. \$30 for time for members of this Yearly Meeting; \$45, for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members; and \$50 for members of our Society, of other Yearly Meetings; Books and Stationery, to continue to be furnished as at present. We herewith forward a copy of the Superintendents' account, for the information of the Yearly Meeting.

While the Committee believe that manifest advantage has resulted from the division of the year into terms, they are sensible it has not been so fully realized as is desirable, from the circumstance that many scholars have entered for a less time than one term, and at different periods in it. While we are aware there may be cases in which parents may desire to place their children in the School for only three months, and we would not wish to deny this privilege when circumstances seem to forbid their remaining through a whole term, yet we hope these applications will not be frequent; and we believe the good of all requires that in future in such cases, the scholars shall enter either at the commencement or the middle of the term.

Inconvenience has sometimes arisen from a neglect of the observance of the regulation adopted by the Yearly Meeting at the establishment of the School, that for all males over fourteen years of age, the consent of the Sub-Committee to their entrance must be obtained previously to their coming to the School, and for the future we would propose that this rule should be strictly adhered to. It will be remembered that the Sub-Committee meets at the Institution on third day before the first fifth day of every month.

Ten scholars have enjoyed the benefit of the charitable fund during the past term; and the same number may receive the privilege the ensuing winter session; and Monthly Meetings are requested to forward their applications at or before the time of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on the first of the tenth month.

An examination of the School has taken place at the close of each term, in the presence of Special Committees appointed for that purpose; and their reports of the proficiency of the pupils and the general condition of the School, have been satisfactory to us. In the one presented at this time, after referring to the satisfaction derived from the visit, the Committee proceed to state, that "the correctness of the recitations of the children, and the readings and knowledge manifested in the various studies to which they have given their attention, evinced a commendable degree of industry and application on the part of the scholars, and of care and diligence on that of the Teachers; and the general appearance of the schools and the orderly deportment of the pupils while we were with them received our approbation."

We can but regret that the number of scholars is not larger than it has been for the past few years. Believing as we do that an opportunity is afforded in this Institution to obtain a useful education, in good measure guarded from the contaminating influences of the world, and we would desire that Friends might be encouraged to avail themselves of its benefits.

In conclusion we may state that the family and scholars have been favoured with almost uninterrupted good health during the past year; which, with many other mercies graciously intended to us by Him who condescends still to care for us, calls for the tribute of grateful hearts.

On behalf and by direction of the Committee
Boarding School, 5th Mo. 21st, 1841. Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

On ~~an~~ considering the subject of a Committee for the ensuing year we are united in reappointing the same friends who served the past year.

52. An Epistle from London Yearly Meeting, held 5th month 1840 on the subject of Slavery, has been read at this time which was satisfactory and interesting to Friends.

Our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson informed this meeting, that she had a prospect of being released from her religious labours in this land before another Yearly Meeting - We appoint our friends Hannah Collins, Elizabeth Wing, Mary Collins, Ruth Wapsett, Anna A Jenkins, Alice Rathbun, Elizabeth Meader, Sophronia Page and Hannah Gould Jun^r to unite with the Committee of new Friends in preparing a returning Certificate for this our dear friend, and endorsements for Friends who are with us from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

We adjourn to the time our new friends may conclude to meet tomorrow.

Fourth day morning met near the 10th hour

A lively Memorial from Sandwich Monthly Meeting and approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting concerning our deceased friend Browning Swift, was read to our instruction and encouragement - our minds were deeply impressed with the important and salutary lesson therein presented to our view, in the example and striking language of this our dear departed friend who ^{being} dead yet speaketh.

We adjourn to the Fifth hour this afternoon.

Fourth day afternoon met conformably to adjournment.

The Committee under appointment to visit subordinate Meetings &c gave in the following report.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals, Report, That they have given such attention to the duties of their appointment as way has opened for, and circumstances have required; and believe it right to propose to the Meeting, the appointment of Committee for similar services for the ensuing year. On behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Jones,

Mary Howland.

Newport 6th Mo: 16, 1841

This report was satisfactory to the meeting and after deliberate consideration on the subject, we are united in reappointing the same friends who served the last, to that service the ensuing year. Mary T Brown one of the Committee having removed from this Yearly Meeting Miriam Kimball is appointed in her stead.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, Indiana and Ohio have been read approved and signed.

We were informed by Dasselborough Quarterly Meeting, that since they proposed for our consideration a division of that Meeting, they had established a Monthly Meeting within its limits by the name of St. Albans, and that they were united in proposing that this Monthly Meeting should be set off, with those of Sidney and Litchfield formerly Leeds to constitute the proposed new Quarterly Meeting — which was referred to the Committee that now has under consideration the subject of the division of Dasselborough Quarterly Meeting.

We adjourn to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon met agreeably to adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of North Carolina, London, Baltimore, Virginia and New York were read and with some small alterations approved and signed.

The Committee appointed for that purpose presented the following Certificate for our beloved Friend Elizabeth Robson —

To the Monthly Meeting of Hardshaw West, the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire, and the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

Our beloved Friend Elizabeth Robson informed this Meeting that she believed her services within our limits were drawing to a close.

This will inform you, that in the course of her arduous engagements in our land she acceptably attended this Yearly Meeting in 1839 — and at that time visited nearly all the Meetings, and a large number of Friends Families, to the comfort and strengthening of many amongst us, as appears by the accounts from several of our Quarterly Meetings.

She is with us again at this time, and her company and gospel labours have been to our satisfaction and edification. We feel preciously united to this our dear sister in the bonds of Christian Fellowship — and when her services in our country are concluded, and a release granted her by the great Head of the Church — may she be favoured to return in safety to her family and friends with the enriching reward of peace.

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This Certificate was fully united and the Clerk directed to sign the same on behalf of the Meeting.

Endorsements were prepared which the Clerk was directed to place on the minutes of our friends who are in attendance from other Yearly Meetings.

Our friends Mary B Allen, Elizabeth Wing, Alice Rathbun, Elizabeth Meader and Hannah Goulds Junr are appointed to unite with a Committee of men Friends to confer with our beloved friend Anna A Jenkins on the subject of her contemplated visit to Great Britain and Ireland.

The Committee having charge of the case in relation to the division of Nassalborough Quarterly Meeting produced the following Report viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting -

The Committee appointed in 1838, and since continued, upon the proposition from Nassalborough Quarterly Meeting for a division of that Meeting, report, That they have conferred together upon the subject, as it is now before the Yearly Meeting from that Quarter, and are united in judgment that the request be granted; and that Fairfield Quarterly Meeting be opened in the 11th mo next, and both held as proposed by their Minute.

On behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Anthony
Ruth Davis.

Newport, 6th Mo 16th, 1841.

Which after deliberate consideration was united with and it was concluded that the division take place as now proposed, by setting off the Monthly Meetings of Sidney, Litchfield and St. Albans from Nassalborough Quarterly Meeting to constitute a new Quarterly Meeting by the name of Fairfield. The two Quarterly Meetings to be held as follows viz. That Fairfield Quarterly Meeting be held alternately at Fairfield and Hallowell - to commence at Hallowell on fourth day before the second sixth day in the 11th month next, and at Fairfield on fourth days before the 2nd sixth days in the second and ninth months, and at Hallowell on the last sixth day in the fifth month. And that Nassalborough Quarterly Meeting be held on the second sixth days in the 2nd, 9th and 11th months, and on fourth day

before the last 6th day in the 5th month.

Also that the Preparative Meetings of Ministers and Elders of Sidney, Litchfield and St. Albans Monthly Meetings constitute a Select Quarterly Meeting.

Susan Howland, Lydia Breed, Elizabeth Meader Elizabeth Wing, Mary B Allen, Ann E. Lang and Mary E. Breed are appointed to attend the sittings of the two Quarterly Meetings in the 11th month next; render them any assistance which they find necessary; and report to this meeting next year.

The Clerk is directed to forward transcripts of Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings, to our several Quarterly Meetings.

Having been favoured to transact the concerns that have come before us in harmony — and from season to season realized the wing of ancient goodness spread over us — we conclude, purposing if permitted to meet at the usual time and place next year.

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Our Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

Dear Sisters,

Impressively have we realized the language of our Holy Redeemer, "Without me ye can do nothing." Yet in reverently waiting on the Holy Word of the Church, how have we been comforted in a fresh evidence that in this way our strength has been renewed, and that in quietness and confidence shall be our strength.

Your acceptable Epistle of 9th month last was received, and read to our encouragement, believing that a qualification has been mercifully extended, in maintaining an epistolary correspondence with our beloved sisters of other Yearly Meetings in that feeling which connects and binds together the flock and family of Christ — in which we are permitted at seasons to feel an evidence that we have passed from death unto life, because we love one another. May we dear sisters abide in this love in and through good and evil report, humbly seeking for that unerring guidance that leads out of all error, and into all truth.

We have cause gratefully to acknowledge that in this our Annual Assembly many of our dear young friends manifest an increased concern to come

under the circumscribing power of the Cross, and we are encouraged to believe that as they submit their wills to the Divine will, they will be prepared of the Lord for usefulness in His Church and service.

The deeply interesting subject of Slavery continues to claim our attention, and we feelingly unite with you in desiring that we may seek for that qualification which Truth gives to act under the direction of Him, who is the Prince of Peace, and be prepared availingly to exert our influence in so desirable a result, even in an universal emancipation from the bondage of Slavery - an evil we sorrowfully deplore.

Our minds have been introduced into painful exercise in a view of the want of love and unity as manifested by our answers to the Queries, and we feel renewedly engaged to press upon all our beloved Friends, the necessity of self-examination, believing there is a cause, and that nothing short of those spiritual weapons that are mighty through God to pulling down of strong holds, can make way in our minds for the restoration of this invaluable and indispensable badge of discipleship, and preserve the maintenance of good order in our Society. - We are led humbly to desire that a search may go forth, and that judgment may be laid to the line and righteousness to the plummet - that the dominion and power of the unchangeable and ever blessed Truth may prevail, to the glory and honour of Him who is ever worthy to be worshipped, honoured and obeyed.

With a salutation of love we remain affectionately your friends -

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

Dear Sisters,

On the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last, we were introduced into tender sympathy with you, and we have believed that He who weigheth the dust in the balance, and tenderly regardeth us in our low estate, vouchsafes his presence to the few as well as the many and speaketh comfortably to the humble and confiding mind, and when they look towards his holy temple for help, He will strengthen them with ability to trust in Him and to praise His excellent name.

Our beloved youth have been invited to forsake the vanities of this world, take up their daily Cross and follow their divine leader, and we are thankful in believing that some of their minds have been affected by the influence of that grace which creates living desires to

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become acquainted with the Spirit of truth in themselves, may this class every where be encouraged to press forward, and become partakers of that peace which the world cannot give or take away.

We have been favoured to transact the important concerns which have engaged our attention at this time in sisterly love, which we have regarded as an intimation from the Head of the Church that we are still held in remembrance. — God is love and they that dwell in Him dwell in love.

The afflicted and oppressed of every class and clime have been the subjects of deep interest and concern at this time, and we have believed that in order to move in any way for their benefit there must be an abiding at the fountain of divine life, where alone right direction will be witnessed, and we be enabled to labour successfully in their cause with the approbation of Him who giveth power to those who seek to serve him in sincerity of heart.

With the salutation of love we are your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

Hannah Gould Sec^y Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters,

Although we have not received an epistolary communication from you, at this time, some of our minds are drawn towards you with feelings of Gospel love, and we trust that it is in the fresh spring thereof that we are induced to address you. It is not in the oldness of the letter, but in newness of life, that the bond of Christian union can be preserved. We desire that the humble travellers Zionward, may be encouraged to persevere in the path pointed out by the great Shepherd of the sheep. It is only by keeping the eye singly directed unto Him, waiting upon Him in prostration of Spirit that His voice is distinctly understood, and renewed qualification received from time to time to do His will. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but they who hold out to the end will obtain the crown.

The state of our religious society calls for increased watchfulness: the excitements of the present day tend to divert the mind from its true centre, and thus to keep it upon the surface of things.

May we be renewedly engaged to dig deep, and lay our foundation upon the munition of rocks, where bread will be given us and our waters will be sure.

The deeply affecting subject of Slavery as it exists in our Country claims the serious attention of Friends - but we are led to believe that in our own strength we cannot advance the cause of emancipation, and while we would gladly avail ourselves of every right opening to alleviate their condition, we desire patiently to wait until a way opens by Him who was neither in the wind, the earthquake or the fire - but when the still small voice is heard - then have we faith to trust, that there may be instrumental means ^{successfully} applied, that will cause every yoke of bondage to be broken, and the Captive to go free.

We feel tenderly concerned for our dear young Friends both with you and among us - may you yield to the visitations of divine love, and submit to the operations of the Holy Spirit - then will you be enabled to maintain your ranks in righteousness, and to keep your habitations in the truth - those who are farther advanced will thus be animated in the prospect of seeing those among you prepared to come forth as faithful Standard bearers, judges as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning.

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and we have been mercifully favoured at season to feel the uniting and solemnizing influence of our Heavenly Father's love, whereby we have been assisted in transacting the weighty concerns which have come before us in Christian condescension and harmony.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our dear friend Elizabeth Robson whose gospel labours have been to our comfort and encouragement.

With the salutation of love we bid you affectionately Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

On the reading of your acceptable Epistle at this time, we have been feelingly reminded that there remains to be the qualification of a good scribe, to bring forth from the Lord's treasury things both new and old, that have in them the seasoning virtue of divine grace, strengthening and animating us to seek for glory, immortality and eternal life.

The state of Society as spread before us at the present time evinces many deviations from the maintenance of our wholesome discipline, yet we are encouraged to believe that there is an increased concern, particularly among those in the morning and meridian of life, a large number who feel the necessity of obeying the Apostolic injunction - Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. May this very interesting part of our Society both with you and us be encouraged to mind the day of small things, and in lowliness and filial fear be willing to endure the Cross and despise the shame thereof.

An interesting manuscript Epistle on the subject of Slavery has been read amongst us from our friends of London Yearly Meeting, which was calculated to stimulate us to be prepared to act in this deeply interesting subject when way should open in the light of Truth, when, in accordance with the order of our Society we may availingly exert our influence in the total extinction of this great evil in our hands.

The several sittings of this Yearly Meeting have been we reverently believe in measure owned by the solemnizing quickening influence of our Holy Head, who is still mindful of His family and flock, and is we humbly believe gathering into His fold those who in the hour of temptation have been allured from the straight and narrow way. These we believe are peculiarly the objects of the Father's love, and will be strengthened to manifest that they have made a covenant

by sacrifice, and be enabled to come up to the help of the Lord to stand against the mighty - For truly we have a potent unwearied enemy to watch against, and have need in the present day of the whole armour of light to see and detect his various transformations.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friends Thomas and Elizabeth Rolson from Great Britain.

May the God of mercy and truth keep and preserve us from the snare of the adversary that we may become increasingly a people to His praise.

In love we bid you an affectionate Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clarke

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Beloved Sisters,

Your acceptable Epistle of 11th month last has been received and read: this message of Gospel love was truly acceptable to us, and we believe the cementing bonds of Christian fellowship are strengthened by thus communing with our absent sisters of the same faith, who desire to abide in that fellowship, which is truly with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

We trust we can with humble gratitude acknowledge the continued regard of Him whose compassion faileth not, but whose mercies are renewed every morning, and whose breaking of bread from season to season to the sustaining of the souls of many amongst us has revived the query - "What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits."

The state of Society as exhibited in the answers to the Queries has been affecting; indicating that the enemy has in various ways entered into the fold - yet though under multiplied discouragements we are consoled in the belief, that there is amongst us an afflicted remnant who trust in the Lord, and whose cry is unto Him, that He will compassionate his heritage and not suffer the enemy to prevail against his people.

We have desired dear friends that you may experience Him whose goings forth are as the morning, to be with you in all your deliberations and to clothe you with the spirit of true judgment - wait at Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high -

under this anointing only can we move with safety to ourselves, or benefit to the Church. In order to experience this we must descend again and again into the washing pool yea, be baptized with the baptism which saveth even the Holy Ghost and Fire.

We have at this time received an Epistle from London Yearly Meeting, on the subject of Slavery. May our united prayers ascend to the throne of grace for the oppressed of every land, that the time may speedily come when the Lord will declare I have seen the afflictions of this people, and will deliver them - and so that we may be so preserved as to wash our hands in innocency, and faithfully maintain our testimony against slavery.

We rejoice that your Boarding School is productive of good and hope it may be relieved from its present difficulties, the religious and guarded education of our youth is deeply interesting to the well concerned every where.

With the salutation of love we are your friends

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

Dear Sisters,

There was never a time when the necessity appeared more evident that the "life is more than meat, and the body than raiment." If the mind is permitted to be drawn away from the true guide, however specious the cause may be, the sweet, savour of divine life becomes gradually lost. May we be aware, dear sisters, of every snare that is spread by the enemy of our souls' peace: such are his delusive presentations, that unless we keep very low, and in a watchful childlike state, we are liable to receive him as an angel of light - thus has he deceived in all ages of the Christian Church, even those who have made a good beginning; and had they continued humble, with the eye singly turned unto the Lord for direction, might have progressed step by step, and stood as upright pillars in His house. The truth as it is in Jesus remains unchangeable. It leads into the straight and narrow way, and keeps its followers there: there are pre-

preserved from the customs and maxims of the world, they realise the renovating and purifying operations of the divine gifts, which came through Jesus Christ, and under its influence the heart becomes enlarged, refined and prepared to render sacrifices in righteousness — thus would the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord as in former years.

We believe there are those both with you and among us, who feel dismayed at the present state of our religious society, and who secret intercessions often arise, "Spare thy people O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach." May these be strengthened to stand firm, and place their confidence in the unsundering Shepherd; the cause is His, and He can save by many or by few. Let us be careful to move under the influence of that love which gathers and unites; this will preserve from putting forth a hand unbidden; it will lead into a patient waiting for a command to be given by Him who goeth before His flock: then in the obedience of faith, as these stand resigned to the Divine will, harmony in exercise will be experienced, the lambs will be fed, and the body thus compacted be edified together in love.

This our annual assembly has been large; we have in attendance many of our young friends, for whom we have renewedly felt a tender concern, that they may submit to the forming hand of Him who is calling from darkness to light, from the allurements of time unto Himself. In different parts of the vineyard there are precious visited minds among this interesting class — may the bend their necks to the yoke of Christ, seek retirement dear young friends, commune with your own hearts and be still. thus will you grow in grace, and become established in righteousness.

We have the acceptable company of our dear friend Elizabeth Robson, whose gospel labours have been comforting to us. With the salutation of love we bid you affectionately Farewell — Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting
Hannah Gould Sec. Clerks

To Virginia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

Dear Sisters,

In again attempting thus to address you, we feel the necessity there is for a right application for that wisdom which is profitable to direct: that under the influence thereof we may be useful one unto another, and our epistolary communications tend mutually to strengthen us in the most holy faith.

Being assembled once more in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we have through divine mercy been permitted to witness the gathering influence of the Shepherds of Israel, and to feel our minds humbled by the solemnizing power of Truth, which when abodes in united in Gospel fellowship the living members of that one body of which Jesus Christ our Lord is head: by the drawing cords of whose love we are at seasons brought near together in that feeling which bath no fellow, and so baptised into the one spirit as to be enabled mentally to pray that our faith fail not, and that we may be strengthened to hold fast the profession of it without wavering.

In seasons of trial and deep discouragement that await us at the present day, may we all dear sisters continue to trust in Him who said, "my grace is sufficient for thee, my strength is made perfect in weakness," that we may in some degree be favoured as was the prophet when he bore this testimony. "Although the fig-tree shall not blossom neither shall fruit be in the pine, the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat, the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

May we all be engaged faithfully to support our various testimonies, and by the forcible language of example invite the beloved youth to come, taste and see that the Lord is good, and become followers of a meek and crucified Saviour, and partake of the fruits of righteousness which ^{is} peace and the effect thereof quietness and assurance forever. May every class both with you and us, dwell in humility and watchfulness, trusting in Him who said - "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

We can gratefully acknowledge that by the cementing influence of divine love we have been enabled to attend to the concerns of Society that have come before us at this time in harmony and love — Although painful deficiencies exist amongst us, we are comforted in the belief that many are the faithful labourers who feel bound to support the order and discipline of the Society, and the blessed testimony of Truth.

A tender concern hath been manifested that Friends may be encouraged to a more diligent attendance of our religious meetings. A more frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures might we believe prove of lasting benefit, particularly to the younger members of our families — they frequently solemnize the mind, and the great truths which point to the means of salvation, thus become associated with our earliest and most tender recollections.

On the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last, some of our minds were afresh introduced into sympathy with you, dear Friends on various accounts, and our spirits tenderly affected in considering the painful and deeply interesting subject of the oppressed condition of the people of colour, held in bondage by their fellow men, and with you we desire to improve every opening in the truth, to aid in the great cause of emancipation, and that all our efforts may be in the counsel of divine wisdom. Although you may feel weary and heavy laden, the burthen bearers being few in number, your hands hang down with fear, your minds clothed with sackcloth; mentally adopting this language, "Oh that mine head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my People" — We would say, be not weary in well doing, for in due time ye shall reap if ye faint not.

With the salutation of Gospel love we bid you Farewell

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

On meeting together at this time, with our hearts inclined in humble dependence upon Him without whose assistance all our efforts are unavailing - we have been mercifully favoured with a fresh evidence of His continued goodness in preserving in us a lively concern that whatever we essay to do, may tend to His honour, and to the increase of that love which is his own precious gift, and is the bond of that union which is with the Father, and with His son Jesus Christ our Lord.

It is we trust from a renewed sense of the benefit derived from an epistolary correspondence that we are drawn to address you dear Friends, in desire that we may remain as spirits written in each others' hearts, endeavouring to keep an eye single unto Him who is the alone Fountain of wisdom and strength, fully believing that he will be our present help in the needful time, enabling us to hold fast that blessed hope of Christian redemption which we have through the spirit and power of Jesus Christ - this in seasons of trial will be as an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast, - that the excellency of that faith which is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen may be felt to purify the heart and strengthen us to watchfulness unto prayers.

We have been favoured through the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting to witness the overshadowing wing of ancient goodness, and enabled to attend to the concerns which have come before us in much harmonious accordant of feeling. Although deficiencies are apparent amongst us, we are comforted in believing that with many there is an increasing concern to labour in the meekness of wisdom for the restoration of love and unity, and for the maintenance of right order and the discipline of the Society.

Many of those in younger life are in attendance of this Meeting, and for this interesting portion of Society both with you and us we have felt a tender solicitude for their encouragement and increased faithfulness in those things that are truly excellent and that do accompany salvation; that durable riches and righteousness may be their blessed inheritance, and that peace

which the world can neither give nor take away be the compass-
ion of their tender susceptible minds.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved
friend Elizabeth Robson.

Your lively Epistle of 5th month last was read to the
edification and comfort of many minds.

With the salutation of love, we are your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Goulds Surry Clerk.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, held
at Newport, by adjournments from the 12th to the 16 of 6th
month inclusive 1842.

Second day morning met at the 9th hour agreeably to the con-
clusion of last year, and after a season of retirement pro-
ceeded to the business of the meeting.

By accounts furnished from our several Quarterly Meet-
ings, their respective representatives are viz:

Rhode Island - Elizabeth Meader, Elizabeth Wing, Eliza Wing,
Joanna Peck, Mary Shove, Hannah Dennis and Amey Knowles.

Salem - Lydia Breed, Hannah Page, Miriam Newhall, Hannah
Buxton, Hannah Huntington, Sophronia Page and Cynthia
Huntington.

Sandwich - Mary Davis, Beulah W Rogers, Sarah Barnard,
Sarah Paddock, Phebe K Sifford, Hannah Slade and Rebecca Thanton.

Smithfield - Susan Gastell, Alice Washburn, Hannah Holder,
Phebe S. Marsh and Mary B. Allen.

Falmouth - Anne Purinton, Hannah M Jones, Eunice J. Ketch and
Rebecca Austin.

Nassaborough - Sybil Jones, Lydia P Fry, Phebe M Douglass,
Ann Jones, Margaret Ratcliffe and Lucy Lincoln.

Dover - Abigail M Jones, Sarah P Tuttle, Ann E Lang and
Elizabeth Hill.

Fairfield. Abigail Farr, Patience D Swan, Rachel Dean & Luriah Potter. Who being called are all present excepting two, for the non attendance of one an acceptable reason was given.

By the account from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting we are informed that they have united with Litchfield Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Rachel Dean to the station of an Elder. We also received information that Smithfield Quarterly Meeting had united with Bolton Monthly Meeting in appointing Ruth Fay to the same station.

A Certificate from the Monthly Meeting of Walnut Ridge, endorsed by Spiceland Quarterly Meeting Indiana, on behalf of our friend Anna Thornburg, and one from Walnut Ridge Monthly Meeting for her companion Dinah Gardner, who are acceptably with us at this time, have been received & read. We appoint our friends Mary Taber, Phoebe K Gifford and Bulah W Rogers and Miriam Newhall to collect a summary from the answers to the Queries, and present them when prepared.

We were informed by Dover Quarterly that they had united with Dover Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Lydia Thompson to the station of an Elder.

Acceptable Epistles from the Yearly Meetings of Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York have been read in this Meeting to our satisfaction and comfort, and we appoint our friends Susan Howland, Ruth Davis, Hannah W Jones, Hannah Collins, Abigail Jones, Elizabeth Meader, Buldah Hoag, Sarah H Tobey, Susan Taber, Sybil Jones, Ann Hopkins, Alice Rathbun, Mary B Allen, Lydia Buel, Lydia K Kelley, Elizabeth Wing, Ann Jones, Eunice Nichols, Hannah Gould Jun^r Phoebe K Gifford and Lydia P Fay to take into consideration the subject of addressing our sisters of other Yearly Meetings, and if way should open, prepare essays and bring to a future sitting.

We adjourn to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Second day afternoon met agreeably to adjournment. The representatives having met and conferred on the subject of Clerk and assistant reports that they were united in proposing Hannah Gould Jun^r and Susan Howland - this being satisfactory to the Meeting they are appointed to that service.

Through the medium of the account from Salem Quarterly Meeting, a proposition was made to change the hour of its commencement in the 8th month, from the 11th to the 10th hour in the morning - a similar proposal from Fairfield Quarterly Select Meeting to alter the time from the 11th hour in the morning to the 2nd hour in the afternoon of the same day. Both these alterations were united with in this Meeting.

A copy of a minute from Dorchester Monthly Meeting on behalf of our friend Stephen Elliott and one for his companion James Goodale from New York Monthly Meeting - A Certificate for Benoni Sprague from Elba Monthly and endorsed by Farmington Quarterly Meeting - with a minute from Walnut Ridge Monthly Meeting for Thomas Hill companion to Anna Thornburgh, were read to our satisfaction, all the above Friends being acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

The London printed Epistle of last year has been read to our instruction and encouragement.)

A satisfactory report of the Boarding School Committee has been read, and is as follows -

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to superintend the various concerns of the Boarding School, again report, that they have endeavoured during the past year to discharge the important duties confided to them by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of scholars during the year, has been seventy-seven, and during the last term, one hundred. Meetings for divine worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations; and harmony has been preserved.

Our friends Allen and Olive Wing continue acceptably to occupy the station of Superintendents. Samuel Austin and Joseph M. Aldrich are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emmeline Aldrich, Elizabeth A. Pope and Elizabeth J. Aldrich in the Girls'. In this arrangement provision is made for Emmeline Aldrich to be absent most of the present term. George A. Read continues to act as book-keeper and teacher of Languages. Charles H. Coffin, junr Rebecca Chipman and Anna -

ella King have each been employed one term during the past year.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded the expenditures by about \$,600 dollars. Some improvements have been made in the premises and buildings, and others are now in progress, and as much remains to be done which we deem important for the interests of the Institution, we have not thought it best at this time to propose any change in the prices of admission from those of last year, viz: \$30 40th term for members of this Yearly Meeting, \$45 for those who are not members of society, one or both of whose parents are members, and \$50 for members of other Yearly Meetings. — Books and Stationery to continue to be furnished as at present. We herewith forward a copy of the Superintendent's account for the information of the Yearly Meeting).

The charitable fund will support for the present year, fourteen scholars one term each, (there having been received since our last report, a balance of income heretofore due this fund,) and Monthly Meetings are requested to forward their applications for this privilege in season for the meeting of the Sub-Committee at Providence, the 4th of 10th month next.)

Our late friend Moses Brown having in his will bequeathed to this Institution 5000 dollars, to be appropriated in whole or in part to the purchase of real estate adjoining the School premises, the Committee have in conformity therewith purchased two tracts of land, of about ten acres each, at a cost of about the sum above named, a part of which has been paid out of the income of the common fund, the special bequest not being available for this purpose, at the present time.

An examination of the scholars in the presence of a Committee of our number has taken place at the

close of each term, and the evidence we have received of the fidelity of the Teachers and the general diligence and orderly deportment of the Scholars has been satisfactory and encouraging to us — and we feel that we have cause gratefully to acknowledge that He, from whom proceedeth all our blessings, has been pleased to regard this institution, and to own the concern of Friends in its establishment and continued progress.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee,
 Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th Mo. 6th, 1842.

In considering the subject of a Committee for the year ensuing, Friends are united in reappointing to that service the Friends who served the past year.

We adjourn to the next hour tomorrow.

Third day Am. Met near the time adjourned to —

The Friends under appointment for that purpose have prepared a Summary from the answers, which is approved and is as follows viz.

It appears by accounts from the several Quarterly Meetings that with the exception of a few small Meetings which were omitted on account of sickness and inclement weather, all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended, yet a want of engagement for the discharge of this important duty is apparent, particularly as relates to the attendance of mid week Meetings.

The hour nearly observed by most Friends, and mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour.

Love and unity are in a good degree maintained amongst us, with a concern to guard against detraction, yet deficiencies in these respects are apparent. When differences have arisen, care has been taken to end them.

It appears that many Friends are endeavouring to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and endeavouring to be good examples therein themselves, yet all are not so.

careful in these respects as Truth requires.

The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in our families.

The use of spirituous liquors appears to be confined to medicinal purposes; - not wholly clear of attending places of public resort. A good degree of moderation and temperance is observed on the occasions referred to in this query.

The circumstances of the poor have been attended to and their necessities relieved; - their children partake of learning, and none are placed from among Friends.

There appears to be a concern with many parents and heads of families, and with some of the young and unmarried, that all proceedings with respect to marriage should be conformable to our discipline, yet all are not sufficiently careful in these respects to prevent deviations, on which account some care has been extended.

Some deficiency in the answer from one Meeting in respect to the maintenance of our testimony against a hiring ministry; clear in relation to the other parts of this query.

Friends appear to be careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, punctual in the performance of their promises and in the payment of their debts, and generally careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Records appear to be generally attended to, but some deficiencies appear with regard to certificates which are under notice.

Can appears to have been taken to deal with offenders - in a good degree as required by discipline. tho' not in some instances as seasonably as would have been best: and judgment seems to have been placed, when necessary, in the authority of Truth according to discipline.

This in connection with the Queries and answers have been read and many pertinent remarks, and much salutary counsel evinced the exercise which has prevailed in many minds on account of the deficiencies thus presented to our view.

We adjourn to the time our new friends may conclude to meet.

3rd day afternoon met at the 4th hour.

Mary P. Hazard and Elizabeth Mins are appointed to prepare endorsements for the certificates of our friends who are with us from other Yearly Meetings.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow.

4th day Am, met near the 10th hour.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of New York and Philadelphia have been read approved and signed.

We adjourn to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon met agreeably to adjournment.

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting to attend the Quarterly Meetings of Walsborough and Fairfield having fulfilled their appointment presented a report which is satisfactory to the meeting and is as follows - viz.

To the Yearly Meeting

Agreeable to appointment two of the Committee attended the sittings of Fairfield and Walsborough Quarterly Meetings in the eleventh month last, to good satisfaction, and rendered such advice and assistance as appeared necessary, and were encouraged to hope that the arrangement would prove a benefit to Society.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Wm D Lang,

Mary B Allen.

Newport 6th Mo. 15th, 1842

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Baltimore and North Carolina were read approved and signed.

The Committee under appointment to visit subordinate Meetings and individual members presented the following report - viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to visit subordinate Meetings and individual members, Report, That they have given attention to their appointment, and have endeavoured to labour in the ability afforded, for the restoration and preservation of love and unity among our members, and have extended a care for the maintenance of the Christian Discipline, testimonies, and good order of our religious Society; giving

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such advice to meetings and members as seemed requisite,
and way opened for. — And we believe from existing
circumstances, that a further extension of care by the
Yearly Meeting, through a Committee, is necessary for
the welfare and best interests of the Society. which we
submit.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport Oct, Mo. 15th, 1842.

Thomas Jones,

Anne Purinton.

This report was acceptable to the meeting, and after
deliberately considering the subject we are unanimous
in reappointing the same Friends who served the
past year, to that service for the year ensuing.

Several very interesting documents respecting
the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians, and also
in relation to those tribes situated west of the Missi-
ssippi, have been read at this time to our satisfaction.

It adjourns to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow
Fifth day P.M. met near the 2nd hour.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Ohio, London,
Virginia and Indiana have been read, approved and
signed.

The Committee under appointment to prepare endorse-
ments for the certificates of our friends who are now
with us, presented them at this time, and the Clerk
is directed to sign them on behalf of the Meeting.

The friends appointed last year to confer with our
beloved friend Anna & Jenkins in relation to her con-
templated visit to Great Britain and Ireland reported
that ^{they} attended to the subject agreeably to their appoint-
ment.

An Epistle addressed to our Quarterly, Monthly,
and Preparative Meetings, has been read is satisfactory,
and the Clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of this
Meeting and to forward the same together with trans-
cripts of Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings
to our subordinate Meetings.

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The representatives being, called are all present who attended the first sitting.

Under a renewed feeling of thankfulness for the condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father, in favouring us from sitting to sitting with the precious evidence of His love: and enabling us to transact the concerns of Society in uninterrupted harmony, we conclude, purposing to meet, if permitted, at the usual time and place next year.

Hannah Goulds Jun^r. Clerk.

To Virginia Nearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear sisters,

Under we trust, the influence of Gospel love, many of our minds have been humbled from a sense of the unmerited goodness and mercy of the Lord, not only in permitting us again to meet in a Nearly Meeting capacity; but in covering our minds with reverence, renewing our confidence in Him who hath said, "without me ye can do nothing", and again for the encouragement of the poor in spirit has said "my grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness". And seeing that His compassion faileth not we desire that all may be induced to cast their care upon Him, who thus careth for the low estate of His Church and people, and thereby be enabled to keep their ranks in righteousness, and maintain our various Christian testimonies to the honour of Him who headeth Joseph as a flock, and whose holy Spirit has been as a pillar of a cloud by day, and of fire by night to His humble depending children.

On the reading of your lively and acceptable Epistle of 5th month last, some of our minds were afresh introduced into tender sympathy with the faithful labourers amongst you whose minds may be often bowed under the weight of many discouragements: but by endeavouring dear friends to dwell under an abiding sense of the continued goodness of Him who hath hitherto helped us - we shall be favoured to experience Him in his wonted kindness



The answers to the queries
have been read at this time
presenting to our view the
state of our Society in the
different Departments and
weightily are our minds
impressed with a renewed
and humbling sense of our
shock - Calling in Sustaining
our wholesome discipline in
its ancient purity and Sim-
plicity - Consistent with
our Christian principles -
and the deep exercise and
mighty admonitions

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to be near unto us, and to sustain the mind amid all the trials and conflicts that may await us, enabling us to rejoice evermore, and in all things to give thanks.

We have felt a tender solicitude that our beloved young friends, both with you and us, might come unto Christ, and learn of Him who is meek and low of heart, and thus be prepared more devotedly to unite with their elder friends in the faithful support of our Christian testimonies - seeking to be clothed with that inward adorning, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which in the sight of God is of great price - thus giving evidence that the prefer Jerusalem above their chiefest joy.

We have been favoured through the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, to feel the wing of angelic goodness spread over us - and in deliberating and attending to the different important subjects that have come before us at this time, much harmony and love have prevailed.

We notice with satisfaction that the situation of the African descendants continues to claim the attention and sympathy of Friends, and we hope that a blessing may attend your endeavours to improve their condition.

In gospel love we salute you and bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting)

Annabel Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

We trust it is in the renewed feeling of gospel love that we are again drawn to address you in this way, sensibly feeling that our sufficiency is not of ourselves, but as said the apostle "our sufficiency is of God" and seeing that it is from Him alone that we receive a qualification for service in his Church, may we be concerned reverently to bow before Him, as it is by being brought low that we experience Him to help us, for vain is the help of man.

We feel that we have abundant cause for thankfulness that the great Head of the Church hath been pleased

during the sittings of this Yearly Meeting to spread the wing of ancient goodness over us, causing many hearts tremblingly to rejoice in Him: that notwithstanding we are a back sliding people, He still condescends to bless us and to do us good - may there be an increasing concern to walk in his fear "sanctify a host the Lord of Hosts, let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

Many deviations continue to mark our answers to the Queries, and the state of things amongst us seems to call on those who are skilful in lamentation often to present themselves as in the inner court, if so be the golden sceptre may be held forth, and favour obtained, availing to intercede with the Lord to spare his people and give not his heritage to reproach. We believe that close searching of heart is called for, the Jerusalem may be searched as with lighted candles: and Oh that a willingness may prevail to imitate the example of the woman, who, when she found she had lost her piece of silver, sought diligently until she had found it - then, might Jerusalem appear in her ancient beauty and become the joy and praise of the whole earth.

We have much dear sisters to remind us of the necessity of maintaining a state of watchfulness even unto prayer, believing that as this resolution of the Prophet is attended to - "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved" - preservation will be experienced, and the insinuations of an unwaried adversary, will in the light of truth be detected. Often are the true disciples of our dear Redeemer, for the trial of their faith, left to feel almost comfortable, and at times ready to perish, but for their encouragement may they refer to the occasion when his disciples were in a boat and there arose a great storm, and he appeared to be asleep - they said - "Lord carest thou we perish?" then he arose and rebuked the wind, and there was a great calm. And at another time when they considered themselves separated from him - lo! he appeared walking on the sea - so it remains to be that this is often

nearest, when to his humble dependant ones, he appears to be the most distant.

And you dear young sisters, are affectionately remembered by us, with desires that you may experience a growth in grace and in the saving knowledge of the ever blessed truth. Suffer not we entreat you, your affections to become rivetted to the perishable things of time; but be willing to sacrifice your idols - give them to the moles and to the bats, and seek above all things to secure for yourselves an interest in Christ Jesus! for even to you the end of all things is at hand, and ere long it will be proclaimed to us all, that time here shall be no longer - then happy for us if oil is found in our vessels, and our lamps trimmed and burning.

With the salutation of love we bid you farewell.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting -

Hannah Goulds Jun B. Clerk.

25 New York Monthly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

Your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last and important instruction and encouragement that we might run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross and despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God - This example of our blessed Redeemer is calculated to inspire our minds with a Godly jealousy over ourselves that we may faithfully follow in the footsteps of the companions of Christ, and be preserved from settling down in the form of godliness without the power.

Our minds have been introduced into much exercise in a view of our delinquency in the faithful maintenance of our Christian discipline, which we own as an hedge about us, designed under the sanctifying influence of divine love to aid and assist us in the path of self-denial and the daily cross - believing as we advance in

religious experience and deepen in the root of life we shall appreciate the wholesome restraints thereof, and feel increasingly bound to discharge the important duties assigned us - then would the deficiencies so apparent amongst us be effaced and we should be a people showing forth the praise of the Lords.

The attendance of our religious meetings has claimed our weighty consideration, and we have believed that where there is a neglect of this duty there will be a savour of death unto death and the growth in the truth greatly retarded - may the attention of our dear young friends be drawn to an examination of themselves to know how far they are concerned in the faithful support of this important Christian testimony, and be encouraged dear young friends agreeably to apostolic exhortation "to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service."

We humbly trust it has been in true self abasement of heart that we have been led to repair to the watch-tower, and to know the quickening power of the spirit of truth - in prayer and intercession to the Father of mercies, that we may experience His helping hand in healing the breaches and restoring paths to walk in.

We at this time feel afresh the necessity of a renewed qualification to preserve this our epistolary correspondence in that spirit which alone can edify one another in love, and we desire to wait for the arising of the pure spring that strengthens the bond of Christian fellowship and enables to salute in whole household of faith uniting in the tribute of prayer and praise to Him, who is God over all worthy forever to be worshipped honoured and obeyed.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

Signed in and on behalf of the meeting
 Hannah Gould & Clerk.

Your acceptable Epistle with its salutary remarks was fully united with, and we believe dear friends, that the "Kingdom of Heaven standeth not in word but in power," and that it is not by any works of righteousness that we have done that we shall be saved, but through the mercy of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Then let us, in that holy stability in the fear of the Lord in which there is preservation from the power of the enemy of all righteousness wait for that holy unction whereby the mind is clothed with that spiritual armour, mighty through God to the pulling down strong holds. Some of us have felt in coming up to this our Annual Assembly the springs of consolation to be shut up and the fountain sealed: yet we have reverently to acknowledge, that in waiting upon the Lord He has been pleased in His merciful compassion to roll the stone from the well's mouth and the flock has been watered and refreshed: confirming us in the belief that grace nor glory nor any good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Deficiencies are still apparent amongst us, we are loudly called upon for a more zealous support of our various Christian testimonies, yet are encouraged in the belief there are many among us in the morning and evening of life, who are increasingly concerned to come more immediately under the purifying hand of the Lord, willing to obey the divine command, "Put off thy ornaments from before thee, that I may know what to do unto thee," and in the good will and pleasure of our Heavenly Father to shine forth as lights in the world prepared of Him to bear the burden and heat of the day.

Our Heavenly Father has, we humbly trust, given overmeasurely cause for sitting to sitting with a precious evidence that we are still dead in sin the Holy Friend Christ Jesus our Lord, and some of us have been strengthened to thank God and take courage in a renewed belief that as we hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering we shall be permitted to receive indeed that tribulation worketh patience, patience experience, and

experienced hope, and hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in the heart.

In a measure of which we salute you and bid you farewell
Signed in and on behalf of the meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

St. Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear friends,

It is we humbly trust under a fresh and con-
fating sense of that love which binds together all the
true followers of the Lamb of God, that we are engaged
at this time to address you, and to express our fervent
desire, that grace mercy and peace may abound amongst
us. We have been made renewedly to feel, since we have
been assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, the goodness
and mercy of our Heavenly Father, in that while we were
yet sinners Christ died for us, and not only so, but that
He ever liveth to make intercession for us - our glorified
mediator at the right hand of God. It is truly cause
of humble thankfulness that such is his compassionate
regard towards the workmanship of his hand, that he
remembereth us in our low estate, and condescendeth
to hear the cries of the poor and the sighing of the needy
and to arise for their help. And dear sisters as we
become established in the fundamental doctrines of
our Holy Redeemer, and practical followers of Him, we
shall be found faithfully maintaining the various Christian
testimonies which distinguish us as a people, and which
we firmly believe we are not at liberty in any degree to forsake.
The truth is unchangeable and they that walk in it cannot
at any time compromise it, and those who are honestly en-
gaged for its support are brought into close union one with
another, and the fruits of the spirit, love, joy, peace, long-
suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith meekness and temperance
are abundantly manifest.

We have received at this time your lively and ac-
ceptable Epistle of 11th month last which has been read
to our comfort and encouragement: consoling indeed is

the reflection that we are bound together as one people wherever situated - that we hold fast the same faith, are concerned to walk by the same rule and to mind the same things.

Our Yearly Meeting has been largely attended, and we have been made afresh to feel that the Lord is still mindful of us, and that He continues to be very near unto all those who in sincerity call upon Him. An increased concern has prevailed amongst us for those in the early waters of life, many of whom are in attendance of this meeting, that they may be made willing to come under the circumcising power of the cross of Christ, which would lend greatly to their advancement in that way which is cast up for the ransomed and redeemed of the Lord to walk in.

It is a satisfaction to us that the suffering and harassed situation of the African descendants, with the aborigines of our land, continues to engage the attention and sympathy of Friends - and from accounts received at this time we are induced to believe that usefulness has resulted from the care extended.

With desires that the Lord may be pleased to bless the provision of Zion, and satisfy her poor with bread, we bid you farewell.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Smith Clerk.

in London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
 Beloved sisters,

It hath pleased our Heavenly Father again to permit us to meet in a Yearly Meeting, expressly and we have cause reverently to acknowledge the continuance of His love towards us. Having through His goodness been baptised into the one Spirit, and favoured to participate in the fellowship of the gospel - of that gospel in which our predecessors - our fathers for the truth - were comforted in the day of persecution, and which hath been a strength to the true believers from the earliest periods of the Christian Church. And it is we humbly trust under the comforting influence of the Father's love that we are drawn thus to

addicts you, in Jesus that through watchfulness unto
 prayer, we may be preserved in the unity of the Spirit
 and in the bond of peace; and thus be built up as one
 compact body. — that righteousness, peace, and joy in the
 Holy Ghost may increase and abound, to the comfort
 and encouragement of all, to hold fast the profession
 of that faith which is the substance of things hoped for,
 and the evidence of things not seen.

For contemplating the present state of ^{our religious} Society, some of our
 minds, we trust under the humbling power of truth, have
 been introduced into exercise and deep feeling on account
 of the deficiencies which are apparent amongst us — Still
 through divine mercy, during the several sittings of this meet-
 ing, we have felt it to be a season of renewal of strength and
 confidence in Him who said — "Hear, ye little flock, for it is
 your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."

To our beloved young friends both with you and us, we
 would say, be encouraged to seek for an establishment upon
 the only "sure foundation," Christ Jesus the rock of ages, and
 wait in humble watchfulness for His teachings, those en-
 gaged thus to do, will through the goodness of the Lord be
 permitted at times to feel that they are partakers of His
 fatherly regard, and hereby witness an increase of faith
 in the evidence and manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

We have been enabled to attend to the important and in-
 teresting concerns of Society that have come before us at this
 time, in the renewed feeling of Christian condescension &
 love — and have felt our minds impressed with a deep
 sense of the truth of this language, "Except the Lord build
 the house, they labour in vain that build it, except the
 Lord keep the City, the watchman waketh but in vain" —
 and having received, dear sisters, the gift of divine grace
 with the charge — "occupy till I come" — it is by faithful labour
 that an evidence is felt, that our labour is not in vain in
 the Lord.

The degraded situation of the African descendants, with
 the Aborigines of our land continues to claim the attention
 and sympathy of Friends — and from accounts received

we are encouraged to believe; that usefulness has resulted from the care extended; and a concern remains with us for a continuance thereof as way may open for it in the truth.

While we have to regret not having received from you dear friends, as usual any written communication - we desire that an epistolary correspondence may be maintained in that wisdom which is profitable to direct.

With a salutation of love we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting,

Hannah Gould Jun^r Black.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

Through divine mercy we are again permitted to meet in our annual Assembly, in which we have been afresh brought to realize the truth of our Lords saying, "Without me ye can do nothing," but with gratitude we may acknowledge that in reverently waiting on Him who remaineth to be strength in weakness to His dependant children, holy help has been mercifully vouchsafed through the anointing of Truth - affording renewed evidence that we are still regarded by the great Head of the Church, who first gathered us to be a People.

On having the state of Society brought before us by reports from our subordinate meetings, it appears that deficiencies still exist, which has been cause of much exercise & desire for increased faithfulness, and we have cause to believe that there is a living remnant among the mothers in Israel who are engaged to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints - and some in earlier and active walks of life, to whom the Law and the Testimony are becoming increasingly dear.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle of 11th month last, introduced our minds into a feeling of that love by which we are known as the disciples of Christ, and under the uniting influence thereof we were made to rejoice, that widely scattered as we are, we are one

people, called with me into our various and being favoured to experience from many precious tokens the confirmation of their minds in the truth we are so ably recommended to see that the present is a day wherein the ancient injunction may be profitably applied Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall exposed as we are to many trials and temptations calculated to allure from the Ark of safety.

We have been favoured to transact the business that has come before us in much sisterly condescension: a large number of our young members are in attendance many of whom manifest a becoming interest in the concerns of the Church, and by their solid deportment evince that their hearts are under the contriting influence of the spirit of truth: and we desire that this interesting class both among you and us, may fully submit to the baptizing power of truth so graciously extended to them and thus become prepared to fill the various stations allotted them in the body to the peace of their own minds and the comfort of their friends.

The right education of our youth is a subject in which we feel deeply concerned and were glad to learn by your Epistle that you were still engaged in the promotion of this desirable object; and although the instruction of our children in Reading Schools may subject us to some increased exertion and additional expense still we believe we are conferring upon them a treasure of more value than gold or silver.

The condition of the African race continues to claim our sympathies, and we desire that every right shining may be improved to ameliorate their sufferings.

In love we remain your friends.

Signed in and on behalf of the meeting.

Hannah Gould & Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear friends,

Having been favoured to meet in a Yearly Meeting capacity under feelings of much weakness, and a renewed sense that without the help of the great head of the Church, we can do nothing that will advance the cause of truth and righteousness. Our minds being thus bowed before our holy helper, He hath been pleased in adorable mercy to be with us from season to season, cementing the spirits of the livingly exercised together in a lively concern for the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders - under this precious influence we have been enabled to transact the concerns of the Church in much harmony.

Many minds have been exercised on account of the deficiencies acknowledged in the reports from our subordinate Meetings; and the influence of the Spirit of truth much weighty counsel has been imparted whereby our minds have been strengthened to hold on our way, tho' it may be a tribulated one, labouring in the ability afforded for the removal of those things which continue to mar the beauty of Zion, that her cords may be lengthened, and her stakes strengthened, confiding in Him who hath said by the prophet, Fear not for I am with thee, be not dismayed for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea I will help thee, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. May we derive encouragement from those blessed assurances, and also that help is laid upon one who is mighty to save and able to deliver to the uttermost all who come unto God by Him.

Oh that we may bow at his feet, and be favoured to hear the gracious words that proceed from his lips: great is the necessity for us in this day of treading down and of perplexity to attend to the words of our blessed Redeemer, Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation, that by his holy aid we may be enabled to stand fast in the faith, having our loins girt with truth, and our lamps burning patiently waiting and quietly hoping for the salvation of the Lord.

Our minds have been turned to our dear young friends with living desires that may be engaged to keep their habitations in the truth; the name of the Lord is a strong tower into which in every time of trial and conflict you may repose and find safety, be encouraged we entreat you to submit to this refining power, that your hearts may be prepared for the use, coming up in a faithful support of the precious testimonies we are entitled to bear.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of 9th month last on the reading of which our minds have been comforted and drawn into sympathy with you in the lively interest you are manifesting for the civilization of the Indians, & that you are not unmindful of the oppressed condition of the people of colour: we tenderly desire that you may be encouraged to embrace every right opening, to relieve & improve their situation remembering that our dear Redeemer hath said unto those who feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and are not unmindful of those who are in prison, "Inasmuch as ye did unto one of the least of these, my brethren ye have done it unto me". From Him the reward is sure.

It is satisfactory to learn that ^{the} interesting subject of the guarded education of the dear youth continues to claim your serious attention.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.—

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting—

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends held at Newport by adjournments from the 12th to the 17th of 6th month, inclusive 1843.

Second day morning met agreeably to the conclusion of last year, and after a season of quiet proceeded to read the accounts from our Quarterly Meetings, by which it appears that their representatives are as follows - viz. Rhode Island - Elizabeth Meaders, Elizabeth Wing, Mary A Collins, Anna A Jenkins, Mary Shove, Elizabeth Peckham & Mary P Harard.

Salmon - Elizabeth Gove, Hannah Collins, Alice Page Elizabeth K Nichols and Sophronia Page.

Sandwich - Mary Taber, Mary Howland, Rosa Kelly, Paulah W Rogers, Anna D Wing, Sarah S Paddock, Ruth Davis, Mary Davis and Elizabeth Mitchell.

Smithfield - Lydia E. Chase, Alice Rathbun, Hannah Holder, Mary B Collins and Ann L Buffum.

Halifax - Eunice Jones, Lydia H Jones, Patience A Buffum, Mary V Bracket and Lydia Allen.

Nassauborough - Anna Bates, Sophia Jones, Eunice Nichols, Rachel W Jones and Rebecca Taber.

Dover - Ann E Lang, Lydia Thompson, Phoebe Meade and Salome C Bracket.

Fairfield - Lydia Taylor, Eunice W Farr, Charlotte Wingate and Sarah Drinton - who being called are all present excepting two, for the absence of one an acceptable reason was given.

By the accounts received at this time we are informed that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of S. Ann Hopkins to the station of an Elder, from Quarterly

with Seabrook Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Abigail Peaslee, Smithfield Quarterly with the Bedford Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Earle - Fairfield Quarterly unites with Litchfield monthly meeting in appointing Rachel Dean and Eunice W. Farr - all to the Station of Elders - and that Passabrough Quarterly unites with China monthly meeting in approving the gift and public appearances in the ministry of Rachel W. Jones - Fairfield Quarterly unites with Litchfield M. meeting in approving the ministry of Mary B. Pinkham and with St Albans Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Martha Le Gou.

We have appointed our friends Ruth Davis, Meriam Newhall, Elizabeth Peckham, Mary P. Harard and Betsy P. Wood to prepare a Summary from the answers and present at a future sitting of this meeting).

Acceptable Epistles from our beloved sisters of Indiana, Ohio, London and ~~Baltimore~~ have been read to our edification, and we have believed it right to select our friends Anna A. Jenkins, Mary W. Allen, Ruth Davis, Mary P. Harard, Phoebe R. Gifford, Susan Howland, Sophronia Page, Susan Taber, Ruth Fay, Rachel W. Jones, Sarah F. Tobey, Eliza Douglas, Comfort Jepson, Lydia Bred, Hannah Gould Jun^r, Hannah Collins, Mary Shove, Ann C. Lang, Ann Hopkins, Eliza B. Boyce, Ann L. Buffum, Elizabeth Meader and Huldah Gifford to take into consideration the subject of addressing our friends of other Yearly Meetings, and if way should open in the truth, to prepare essays and present when ready.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may conclude to meet this afternoon.

2nd day 7th mo. met near the 4th hour.

The representatives have met and conferred on the subject of Clerks, and proposed Hannah Gould for Clerk and Susan Howland assistant, which being acceptable to the meeting they are appointed accordingly.

A Certificate on behalf of John Hill from Pelham Monthly and endorsed by Pelham Quarterly Meeting of Friends Upper Canada, has been read - also one for Isaac Thorn from Ninepartners M^c. Meeting, one for Ebenezer Roberts from Chester M^c. Meeting N. J. one for Samuel Cope from Bradford M^c. Meeting, one for Ezra Comfort from Bayonne M^c. Meeting, Penn. and one for Benjamin Hoyle from Short Creek M^c. Meeting, Ohio, the above named Friends with their respective companions are all in attendance of this Yearly Meetings.

Epistles from the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New York, Virginia and North Carolina have been read at this time to our satisfaction.

The Report of the Boarding School Committee has been read, is satisfactory to the Meeting, and is as follows, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee Report, That they have endeavoured, during the past year, to discharge the duties confided to them in superintending the various concerns of the Institution. The average number of scholars during the year, has been eighty, and during the winter term, one hundred and nine. Meetings for divine worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the time of vacations, and harmony has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Ohio Wang continue to fill acceptably the station of Superintendents. Jonathan L. Shocum and Samuel Austin are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emeline Aldrich and Elizabeth L. Aldrich in the Girls'. Charles H. Coffin jun. is engaged to take charge of the accounts, and to have the care of the Boys' out of school hours. George H. Wicks, Joseph M. Aldrich and Elizabeth H. Pope have severally been employed as Teachers during the past year.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have been settled, by which it appears that the pe-

ceipts of the School during the past year have been \$11,280 ⁴⁸/₁₀₀; its expenditures \$12,305 ⁵⁷/₁₀₀, a part of which was derived from the funds on hand at the close of the last year. This amount includes the sum of \$3,116 ⁵⁷/₁₀₀, that has been appropriated to repairs and improvements, especially in erecting a building for a wash-house, and in making a substantial wall around a part of the farm. For details we refer to a copy of the Superintendents account, herewith presented.

We would propose that the price for board and tuition be continued the same as last year, viz. \$30 for term for members of this Yearly Meeting; \$45, for children who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members of Society, and \$50 for those of other Yearly Meetings. Books and Stationery being furnished as at present. Arrangements are made for giving instruction in the Latin and Greek languages, to the Boys, and in the French to the Girls, when their parents desire it, for which we propose, that the additional sum of \$5 per term, should be paid.

The income of the charitable fund for the next year, it is estimated, will support twelve scholars, one term each, and Monthly Meetings are particularly desired to forward their applications in season for the meeting of the sub-committee, at the School, 3rd of 10th month next. As this is the last meeting of the Committee previous to the commencement of the winter term, it is necessary that applications should be seasonably forwarded in order to avoid disappointment.

The original design of the Yearly Meeting in the establishment of the Boarding School being to provide for the religious guarded education of the youth of our Society, it has ever been a prominent concern with the Committee to promote this most desirable end, and they encouraged and comforted in believing that there are many, in different parts of the Yearly Meeting, who

have found in this Institution the means of obtaining a useful education, in good degree free from the contaminating influences of the world. In order to preserve it a select and safe School for our children, we feel it to be very important that the careful guards which from time to time have been adopted by the Yearly Meeting, in relation to the admission of scholars, should be faithfully maintained; and we think it right at this time to revive some of these regulations, and to solicit Friends strictly to observe them.

First. Every Monthly Meeting, is desired to have a Committee specially appointed for the purpose of granting certificates to all children, both male and female, whom they may consider suitable to enter the School; and parents are requested in every case, when proposing to send a child to the school, to make reasonable application to such Committee, in order to obtain their certificate.

Second. No male scholar, over fourteen years of age, can enter the School without previously obtaining permission so to do, from the Sub-Committee who meet on 3rd day before the first 5th day, in every month; and a certificate from the Monthly Meetings Committee must be produced in these as well as in other cases.

Third. It is particularly requested that Committees in granting certificates, will exercise a care that children should bring no clothing to the School unsuitable to wear on account of plainness, and they give evidence of a disposition to conform to the rules of the School, and to demean themselves in an orderly consistent manner, which should be expressed in the certificate.

Fourth. No Scholar can enter the School for a less time than one term, without the consent of the Sub-Committee, and when, under peculiar circumstances, it may be deemed proper to admit a child after the term has commenced, it is desired that he will continue in the School until the ensuing vacation.

The faithful observance in this Institution of our well known and important testimonies as to plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel, continues to claim our

unabated attention, and we earnestly desire that the importance thereof may be duly impressed upon the minds of the children, before leaving their homes, and that may be encouraged in no respect to deviate therefrom, and thus wound themselves, and bring reproach upon our profession. In a Circular first issued in 1835, and re-vised in 1839, copies of which were transmitted to the different Monthly Meetings, some directions were proposed as to what constituted a suitable attire for scholars; to which we desire again to refer Friends who are intending to send their children to the School.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee
Boarding School 5th Mch 1843. Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk.

On considering the subject of a Committee for the ensuing year, the meeting was unanimous in re-appointing the same friends who served the past year, with the exception of one removed by death.

We conclude to the time our men friends may conclude to meet tomorrow.

3rd day Morning met near the 10th hour.

The Queries with answers from all our Quarterly Meetings have been read, in connection with ^a summary (prepared therefrom by the friends set apart for that service yesterday.) which is as follows - viz.

It appears that all our meetings have been kept up except a few, owing to the inclemency of the weather and indisposition - yet deficiencies in the attendance of our religious meetings are still apparent, particularly those held in the middle of the week, on which account some care has been extended. The hour generally observed mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour when assembled.

Love and unity are in a good degree maintained by most friends, yet deficiencies appear in the support of these important duties - mostly careful to guard against a detracting spirit - and where differences have arisen care has been taken to end them.

A care remains with most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, discouraging the perusal of pernicious books and corrupt conversation, endeavouring to be exemplary therein themselves - Yet a want of engagement for the support of our testimonies in these respects are apparent, on which account some labour has been bestowed - the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in our families.

Clear as far as appears in the improper use of spirituous liquors, and also of frequenting places of public resort - a good degree of moderation is observed on account of births, marriages, burials and on other occasions.

The circumstances of the poor are attended to and their necessities relieved, and they assisted in business when occasion requires - their children partake with others the privileges of learning - none placed from among Friends.

There appears to be a care with most parents and heads of families, with many of the young and unmarried that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline - yet perhaps is expressed in the answers from several meetings and some deviations in company keeping and marrying contrary to the order of our Society.

Friends are careful to maintain our testimony in regard to the payment of priests wages, with the exception of one instance which is under notice - clear as respects the other parts of this query.

Mostly clear as respects the several requisitions of this query.

Some deficiencies in recording, also with regard to certificates which are under notice.

It appears by the accounts from the different Quarters that a good degree of care has been taken to deal with offenders in the manner queried after, and to place judgment according to discipline.

Our men friends informed that they had appointed a Committee for general services to which may be referred such subjects as may be deemed proper - the subject obtained the solid consideration of this meeting, and resulted in a conclusion to make a similar appointment which being feelingly united with we select our friends Eunice Jones, Lydia Taylor, Anna Bates, Mary Davis, Lydia Thompson, Alice Page, Ann Hopkins, Ruth Fry, Mary W Allen, Comfort Jepson, Ruth Davis, Miriam Marshall, Anna A Jenkins, Sophronia Page, Lydia Reed, Nabby Bean, Hannah Collins, Elizabeth Wing, Ann E Lang, Lydia Tuttle, Susan Howland, Mary Wing, Elizabeth Meader, Rachel W Jones and Elizabeth A Osborne were selected for that purpose, and they are desired to give their attention thereto under the direction of best wisdom, in unison with our men friends - it is expected that they will from time to time as occasion may require report to this meeting).

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet this P.M.
3rd day afternoon met at the 4th hour.

A Testimony of Walsborough Monthly Meeting concerning our ancient friend Benjamin Worth, and one from Greenwich Monthly Meeting, on behalf of Andrew Nichols - from Sandwich Monthly Meeting one respecting Cyrus Beebe, all of which have been acceptably read at this time - These Memorials of our ancient deceased brethren have been interesting, and affectingly instructive to many amongst us; and we have felt desirous that by those examples of devotion and obedience in life, and peace and confidence in the hour of death, our minds may be afresh incited to become followers of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow.

4th day morning met near the 11th hour.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Ohio, Indiana and North Carolina have been read, ap-

approved and signed.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet this P.M.
Afternoon met near the 4th hour.

Extracts from the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings have been read to our satisfaction by which it appears that a concern has for some time prevailed in that body that more full and correct information might be disseminated amongst our members, on "some of the Prominent Doctrines and Testimonies of Friends" — for this purpose they appointed a Committee to deliberate thereon — this Committee prepared an Essay which was approved and directed to be forwarded to the Yearly Meeting for its consideration — This document was read, and a feeling of full unity having been expressed, and a degree of thankfulness manifested at so pertinent and appropriate an exposition of the testimonies and doctrines so precious to us as a Society — the Clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting and place it on its records —

It is as follows viz —

An Essay on some of the Prominent Doctrines and Testimonies of Friends.

It is, we trust, under a living concern for the promotion of the cause of truth, and the preservation of our religious Society in its ancient principles and testimonies, that we are engaged to address our fellow members at this time, and to offer them the language of encouragement, in the words of one of the inspired apostles, to be "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding, in the work of the Lord."

We believe we may often be profitably engaged in recurring to the rise and progress of our religious Society, and to the profession and practice of those who were led to embrace the doctrines that have continued, from their day to the present time, to distinguish us as a distinct religious people; and we trust we are prepared with feelings of reverence to acknowledge, that it was through the illumination and power of the

Spirit of the Lord that our forefathers were enabled to discover the corruptions that had gained access into the professing Church, and were brought into a state of primitive purity, consistent, as we believe, with the spirituality of that dispensation introduced by our blessed Redeemer, and embraced and promulgated by his disciples and early followers.

In the dispensations and direction of the Great Head of the Church, very solemn and important are the responsibilities that devolve upon us in the support of those principles and testimonies which had their origin in the unchangeable truth; and it is only as we are concerned to be found faithful in maintaining them, with uncompromising integrity and singleness of heart, that we may expect the blessing of the Most High to rest upon us.

We shall find, in the history of our Society, that it was the care of early Friends to bear before the world a full and explicit declaration of their faith and belief in the great and all-important truths which are the foundation of the Christian's hope; and we believe we may profitably revive the clear and emphatic testimony borne by George Fox in his memorable epistle to the Governor and Council of Barbadoes, viz. —

"Whereas many scandalous lies and slanders have been cast upon us, to render us odious; as that we deny God, Christ Jesus, and the Scriptures of truth &c., — this is to inform you that all our books and declarations, which for these many years have been published to the world, clearly testify the contrary. Yet, for your satisfaction, we now plainly and sincerely declare, that we own and believe in the only wise, omnipotent, and everlasting God; the creator of all things in Heaven and earth, and the preserver of all that he hath made; who is God over all, blessed forever, to whom be all honor, glory, dominion, praise and thanksgiving, both now and forevermore; — and we own and believe in Jesus Christ, his beloved and only-begotten Son, in whom he is well

pleased; who was conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born
 of the Virgin Mary; in whom we have redemption thro'
 his blood, even the forgiveness of sins; who is the express
 image of the invisible God, the first-born of every
 creature; by whom were all things created that are in
 heaven and in earth, visible and invisible, whether
 they be thrones, dominions, principalities or powers;
 all things were created by him. And we own and
 believe that he was made a sacrifice for sin who knew
 no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth; that
 he was crucified for us in the flesh, without the
 gates of Jerusalem; and that he was buried; and rose
 again the third day, by the power of his Father, for
 our justification; and that he ascended up into heaven,
 and now sitteth at the right hand of God. This Jesus,
 who was the foundation of the holy prophets and
 apostles, is our foundation; and we believe there is
 no foundation to be laid, than that which is laid,
 even Christ Jesus; who tasted death for every man;
 shed his blood for all men, is the propitiation for
 our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the
 sins of the whole world; according as John the
 Baptist testified of him when he said, "Behold
 the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of
 the world." John 1st. 29. We believe that he alone
 is our Redeemer and Saviour, the Captain of our
 salvation, who saves us from sin as well as from
 hell and the wrath to come, and destroys the devil
 and his works: he is the seed of the woman that
 bruises the serpent's head, to wit, Christ Jesus, the
 Alpha and Omega, the first and the last. He is
 (as the Scriptures say of him) our wisdom, right-
 compass, justification, and redemption; neither
 is there salvation in any other; for there is no ^{other} name
 under heaven, given among men, whereby we may
 be saved. He alone is the Shepherd and Bishop
 of our souls; he is our Prophet, whom Moses long since
 testified of, saying, A Prophet shall the Lord your God,

raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things, whatsoever he shall say unto you; and it shall come to pass that every soul that will not hear that Prophet shall be destroyed from among the people, Acts 3. 22. 23. He is now come in spirit, and hath given us an understanding, that we know him that is true. He rules in our hearts by his law of love and life, and makes us free from the law of sin and death. We have no life but by him; for he is the quickening spirit, the second Adam, the Lord from heaven, by whose blood we are cleansed, and our consciences sprinkled from dead works to serve the living God. He is our Mediator, who makes peace and reconciliation between God offended and us offending; He being the oath of God, the new covenant of light, life, grace and peace; the Author and Finisher of our faith.

This Lord Jesus Christ, the heavenly man, the Emmanuel, God with us, we all own and believe in, the whom the High Priest raged against, and said he had spoken blasphemy; whom the priests and elders of the Jews took counsel together against, and put to death; the same whom Judas betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, which the priests gave him as a reward for his treason; who also gave large money to the soldiers to broach a horrible lie, namely, "That his disciples came and stole him away by night while they slept." After he was risen from the dead, the history of the Acts of the Apostles sets forth how the chief priests and elders persecuted the disciples of this Jesus, for preaching Christ and his resurrection. This, we say, is that Lord Jesus Christ, whom we own to be our life and salvation."

Concerning the Holy Scriptures, we believe they were given forth by the Holy Spirit of God, through the Holy men of God, who (as the Scripture declares, 2 Peter 1. 21.) spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. We believe they are to be read, believed, and fulfilled, (he that fulfils them is Christ,) and they are profitable for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that

the man of God may be perfect, & thoroughly furnished unto
all good works, 2 Timothy 3. 16, 17,) and are able to make wise
unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
We believe the Holy Scriptures are the words of God, for it
is said in Exodus 20. 1. God spoke all these words, saying,
&c., meaning the ten commandments given forth on Mount
Sinai. And in Revelations 22. 18, saith John, I testify to
every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of
this book, if any man addeth unto them, and if any
man shall take away from the words of the book of
this prophecy, (not the word) &c. So in Luke 1. 20,
'Because thou believest not my words' and in John
5. 47, and 15. 7, and 14. 23, and 12. 47. So that we call the Holy
Scriptures, as Christ, the apostles, and holy men of God called
them, viz, the words of God." — George Fox's Journal, Vol. 2.

To these great and fundamental doctrines of the gospel
our forefathers were prompt in rendering their unequiv-
ocal assent, and in declaring their humble and devoted
faith in them; but they clearly saw that, unless the
heart believeth unto righteousness, the mouth cannot
make confession unto salvation. They felt that there
was a danger of so resting on the outward as to
neglect that inward and spiritual work which every
heart must come to witness in that regeneration with-
out which "no man can enter into the Kingdom of God".
And among the views which distinguished them from
other professors of their time, were those in relation to
the perceptible, immediate teaching of the Holy Spirit,
and the spirituality of divine worship. They saw
that under the gospel was verified the fulfilment of
ancient prophecy: — "After those days, saith the Lord, I
will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in
their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my
people. And they shall teach no man, every man his neigh-
bour and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord;
for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the
greatest of them." They faithfully received this declaration of
our Lord to his disciples — These things have I spoken unto

you, being) yet present with you, but the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you." And they felt that it was only under this teaching, and power that we could know our several and distinct duties, and receive ability to discharge them; and they abundantly found in their own experience, that, in seeking his holy help and guidance, they were not following a cunningly devised fable, but were resting on living, substantial truth.

"Being fully persuaded that man, without the spirit of Christ inwardly revealed, can do nothing to the glory of God, or to effect his own salvation, they believed that its divine influence is essentially necessary to the performance of the highest act of which the human mind is capable, even the worship of Almighty God, in spirit and in truth." They practically received the plain declaration made by our Saviour to the woman of Samaria at Jacob's well, as to its nature and the mode of its performance, and were brought to see and feel that true and acceptable worship depended not on any human ministrations, or in the uttering of any form of words, but in that supernatural communion in which we are permitted to draw near unto our Father in Heaven, and to experience his holy arising in our hearts. Hence they met together, and sought to know, their spirits reverently turned unto the Father of spirits, without depending one upon another for the discharge of this solemn duty; and were often, even amidst much outward persecution, refreshed and comforted together by the visitations of his love, in the overflowing of which it was witnessed to extend as from vessel to vessel.

In close and necessary connection with this view of the humanness of divine worship was that which they took of the nature of gospel ministry, and of the indispensable qualification for its right exercise. They believed it to be the sole prerogative of the great Head of the Church to call whomsoever he pleased into his own service, and

that directly from him alone can ability be received for the discharge of this high calling to the honour of his cause or the benefit of man. They saw that it is not by any education for the ministry, that one can receive from another, nor by any human attainment or learning; not by any mere intellectual powers of the natural man; but by the immediate influence of his own Holy Spirit upon his servants and handmaidens, that become qualified acceptably to speak in his name; and that this preparation is to be renewedly witnessed on every occasion, in order for a right exercise of this gift that cometh from him; and that as this is humbly waited for and known from season to season, his instruments are enabled to speak to the status of the people, and to receive and hand forth that bread which the Master is pleased to bless and to break.

And also in the solemn duty of prayer they felt the full force of that declaration of Holy Writ, that we know not what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit helpeth our infirmities, making intercessions for us with groanings which cannot be uttered; and they dared not appear in prayer before Him "who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises," except under deep and reverential awe, and as they were moved thereto and directed therein by the immediate influence and assistance of the Holy Ghost.)

They saw, too, that there were many ceremonies under the Law, some of which were practised in the infant state of the Church, which were not of perpetual obligation, and in which it was to be feared those that observed them might place dependence, and not come to know the inward work which alone is saving).

Among these were baptism by water, and the supper of bread and wine, both of which Friends believed, were but types of that baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire, and of that spiritual communion with Christ, which all experience and are favoured to be participants of, who, through the efficacy of his power,

know old things to be done away, and all to become new, and all of him. They received the declaration of the apostle, that the one saving baptism is "not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ," which answer only is to be known by the changing operations of the Holy Spirit in the heart, bringing into conformity to the divine will. They believed the true Supper that nourisheth unto life is an inward and spiritual partaking of the body and blood of Christ, the practical effects of which are set forth by our blessed Lord: "He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me and I in him."

They bore a faithful testimony against all wars and fightings, as inconsistent with the principles of Christ and his apostles, and with the nature of his reign whose birth was announced by the angelic anthem, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men,"—and also against the taking of oaths, as being plainly prohibited under the gospel. Nor were they less scrupulous in the observance of that simplicity of attire and plainness of speech which so clearly become the followers of Him who wore a seamless garment, and was meek and lowly in heart; and thus they exhibited to the world an upright and consistent testimony against its changing fashions and vanities.

These have ever been among the prominent doctrines and testimonies of our religious society. We declare, as we have often heretofore done, our full and heartfelt belief in them, our continued and unwavering adherence to them; but we do not deem it necessary, in addressing our fellow members at this time, to set forth at length the clear and convincing reasons which brought our forefathers into the observance of these practices, or at all to dwell on the evidences which were given them, that the doctrines that they had received, and were concerned to maintain, were none other than the truth as it is in Jesus.

We fervently desire that all our members may be fully convinced of this; that all may feel the excellency of the doctrines of Friends, and be concerned to be found faithful in supporting them even as they were held and sustained by our forefathers. We exhort our dear friends not to seek after

or to adopt any change, however plausible it may appear, or from whatever source it may come. The truth is the same yesterday, to day, and forever, and as we believe George Fox, and those in unity with him, were enabled, by the anshinings of the true light, to perceive it, and were favoured with holy help to embrace it, so all those who are truly members of the body will feel that it is their duty to maintain the same views — to walk by the same rule, and mind the same thing.

May we, beloved friends, be ready at all times to confess to this faith once delivered to the saints, as professed by our forefathers. May we not only be satisfied with our simple mode of worship, but count it our privilege thus to worship the God of our fathers. May none desire the introduction of any of those formalities, from which our early Friends became freed, and on which account they suffered much persecution. May none seek for a ministry which depends in any degree upon human acquirements, or that springs from any other source than the immediate teaching and anointing of the Holy Ghost.

Amongst the numerous devices of our unwearied adversary to divide and scatter among us, is the introduction of unfounded suspicions and unjust apprehensions, in relation to each other, producing an estrangement of feeling towards the brethren, and a want of that love by which our Lord declared his disciples were to be known. May we, dear friends, watch unto prayer, that we be not taken by this wile of the enemy, and thus separated from that fellowship, which, as members of the body, we are permitted to be partakers of in him who is our holy Head.

It was, we firmly believe, under the immediate influence and direction of the Head of the church, that the discipline was introduced into it, and we are fully sensible that the preservation and prosperity of our religious society very much depends upon the maintenance of this discipline in the authority that the truth gives. But very great would be the error, if any should admit into their minds the conclusion, that all who are members have equal weight in the decisions of the Church; for they only are qualified to direct in the affairs of truth, who

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Know something of the puttings forth of the heavenly Shepherd,
and are enabled to distinguish between his voice and the
voice of the stranger. It is, ^{for} these, "in the spirit of meekness &
wisdom, without partiality or unnecessary delay," to carry
into effect the provisions of that discipline, which in best
wisdom has been established amongst us; and none, whatever
may be their age or station, are to be exempted from its
impartial exercise, or freed from its wholesome restraints.
Very pertinent is the exhortation of our worthy elder brother,
George Fox, on this point: Friends, live in the power of the
Lord God, and in his truth, light, and life, that by it you
may all, with one heart and mind, keep dominion and do
judgment and justice, truth and righteousness, in all your
men's and women's meetings, without favour or affection to
relations, kindred, or acquaintances, or any respect of per-
sons." — "For the power of God, his light and truth, respects
not any, but justice, truth, righteousness and equity." —

Let all your meetings be preserved by the wisdom of God,
in the unity of the Spirit, the bond of peace, and in the fellow-
ship of the Holy Ghost; that, being ordered by the pure, gentle,
heavenly wisdom, easy to be entreated, they may be holy and
virtuous examples to all others."

As it is our living engagement to seek after this pure wisdom;
as we are concerned to be found faithful in our allotted sta-
tions in the Church; as our hearts are kept single unto our
heavenly Father; as we seek, in sincerity, to know and obey
the inward revelations of his holy will; — we are persuaded
we shall feel a sweet and cementing unity one with another,
and shall experience, individually and collectively, the
blessing of preservation.

Signed, by direction and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting
of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from
the 11th to the 17th, inclusive, of the 6th month, 1843, by
Abraham Shearman, Jun^r Clerk.
Wesley Gault, Jun^r Clerk.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow
5 day afternoon next at the usual hour
Being informed that our friend Anna C. Perkins has been

liberated to perform a religious visit within the limits of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and should way open for it, to extend her visit to some places on the Continent of Europe, principally among those of our religious profession. — Mary B. Allen, Susan Howland, Lydia C. Smith, Ann Hopkins and Sarah F. Tobey are named a Committee with whom she may consult and advise on any subjects connected with this concern.

We adjourn to the time our new friends may meet tomorrow — 6th day morning, met at the 10th hour.

An interesting, and minute report of the Committee on Indian ^{has been read} concerns, communicated to the Committee by our friends Samuel Taylor and John D. Lang, who have spent several months in visiting various tribes of Indians during the past year: and while a heartfelt commiseration was manifested for this wronged and oppressed portion of the human family — those brethren who have thus entered into their interests, and felt with them in their sorrows have met our sincere and cordial sympathy.

Our Committee under appointed to visit subordinate Meetings, individual members &c. presented the annexed report, viz.
to the Yearly Meeting (now sitting)

The Committee to visit subordinate Meetings and individual members, Report — that we have endeavoured to give that attention to the duties of our appointment which its importance demanded; having extended a care for the maintenance of the Christian Discipline, testimonies and good order of our religious Society; and laboured in the ability afforded, for the restoration of love and unity among our members, which are so essential to the well being of the body: making such communications, and giving from time to time such advice and assistance to Meetings and individuals, as occasion seemed to require, and way open for. — And we believe, that the care of the Yearly Meeting, through a Committee, is still necessary for the promotion of love and unity, and the welfare and best interests of Society —

On behalf of the Committee.

Newport, 6th mo. 26, 1843.

Howland Greene

Mary Wing.

This Report was acceptable and satisfactory to the meeting and after solidly considering the subject of a Committee for similar purposes for the year ensuing, we are united in re-appointing the same friends who served the past year, with the addition of Lydia Taylor from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting - and they are desired to give such attention to the object of their appointment as circumstances may require and way open for and report next year.

We adjourn to the time our mess friends may meet this 7th day afternoon met at the 4th hour.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of London, New York, Baltimore and Dublin, have been read, approved and signed.

The Committee appointed on third day for general services, Report that they have attended to their appointment, but have nothing further to remark.

The Clerk is directed to make some extracts from the minutes and sign them on behalf of the meeting and forward them, together with transcripts of Epistles received to our respective Quarterly Meetings.

We adjourn to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

7th day morning the 17th met agreeably to adjournment.

The representatives being, called are all present who attended the first sitting, excepting one who was prevented by indisposition.

Some extracts from the minutes, with some expression of the concern which has from time to time been manifested in this meeting for the advancement of the cause of truth and righteousness, and an increase of faithfulness and dedication thereto - was read and united with.

Having been favoured to accomplish the business of this Meeting in harmony and love, we are renewedly confirmed in the belief, that however destitute of qualifications for any good word or work we may feel ourselves to be, He who giveth strength to the weak is still disposed to clothe his dependant children with ability to perform His work acceptably. Under a grateful sense of His continued regard we conclude, purposing if permitted to meet at the usual time and place next year.

Hannah Gould Jun^r. Clerk.

The attention of the Meeting being turned towards our beloved sisters who are not in attendance with us at this time, the Clerks are desired to select from the Minutes such portions of the concern and exercise that have attended our minds during the several sittings of this Meeting and forward them to our subordinate Meetings.

A Testimony of Caspar's Monthly Meeting concerning our deceased ancient friend Benjamin Worth — one from Greenwich Monthly Meeting on behalf of Andrew Nichols — and one from Sandwich (N.H.) Monthly Meeting concerning Cyrus Peede, have been read. These Memorials of our departed brethren have been affecting and instructive to many amongst us: and we have desired that, by these examples of obedience and devotion in life, and peace and confidence in the hour of death, our minds may be afresh incited to become followers of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

An interesting and minute report of the Committee on Indian concerns has been read — communicated to the Committee by Samuel Taylor Jun^r and John D. Lang, who have spent several months during the past year in visiting various tribes of Indians: and while a heart-felt consideration was manifested for this oppressed portion of the human family — those brethren who have thus entered into their interests, and participated in their sorrows, have met our sincere and cordial sympathies.

An Essay on some of the Prominent Doctrines and Testimonies of Friends, prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings, was read, and united with, and a degree of thankfulness expressed for this seasonable and appropriate exposition of the Testimonies and Doctrines so precious to us as a religious Society — And we have craved that we may individually consider the obligation resting upon us to maintain those testimonies, by cherishing in our hearts that love to our Heavenly Father, and one to another, which would lead us to prize the privilege of assembling ourselves together to worship Him in spirit and in truth, hence would the unity of the Spirit be preserved, the duty of thus meeting,

together be numbered with our blessings, and our outward concerns deemed a secondary consideration.

During the sittings of this our annual assembly we have believed that very many of our dear sisters who have not been privileged to meet with us will unite in commemorating, the continuance of heavenly regards with which we have been favoured, and the language of encouragement has been extended to the absent as well as to those present, that the hands of the weak may be strengthened and the feeble knees confirmed, holding fast the profession of our faith in Christ Jesus our Lord we may be enabled to become helpers one unto another, believing that the exercise of the faithful for the promotion of truth and righteousness will not be lost upon those who in sincerity love the Lord Jesus.

The value of true humility and simplicity has impressed our minds with peculiar force - The fear of the Lord keepeth the heart clean, and when thus kept the intrusion of unprofitable desires and vain thoughts will be much excluded, and we have coveted for our dear friends of every class that they may be enabled to keep their hearts with all diligence, and their habitations in the truth, that nothing may be permitted to disturb their peace - that sweet peace in which the stranger cannot intermeddle, but in order thus to dwell in the low valley of humility - where the refreshing dew lies long, we must be gentle and easy to be entreated, counting even the reproofs of our friends as evidences of their love and sisterly regard.

In a view of the responsibility of parents and heads of families, we have felt a solicitude that they might seek for ability rightly to go in and out before those under their care, standing as at wisdom's gate for daily instruction and strength to walk circumspectly, redeeming the time - walking in the way that leadeth unto life: & we affectionately commend to them the practice of gathering their families in quiet retirement, and the reading of the Holy Scriptures, endeavouring to impress on their minds the importance of the truths contained therein,

convincing them by the powerful influence of example, that you indeed believe them to be profitable, for doctrine, for reproof and instruction.

Many of our beloved younger sisters have assembled with us at this time, and we have believed that an increased attention and interest in the concerns of Society has been felt by many of them, affording the cheering hope that, a succession of standard bearers are under the preparing hand for usefulness in the Church.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters,

We have gratefully to acknowledge that in this our annual assembly, an evidence hath in mercy been granted to the Lord's humble depending children, of the renewed extension of Heavenly regard - under which, we have been encouraged to address you; desiring, that the bonds of Christian relationship may not be weakened by any insinuation of the enemy of our souls' peace, who in his subtle transformations too often prevails in the semblance of an angel of light - even if it were possible, deceiving the very elect - may we not in the deceivableness of unrighteousness suffer the accuser of the brethren thus to mar the work of Truth and righteousness in our hearts, and break the bond of Christian discipleship. But, may we, dear sisters, get down to the foundation of Gods which standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His. We can feelingly unite with you in the solemnizing truth, that, "Except the Lord, build the house they labour in vain that build it". He will give His ^{own} glory to another, neither His praise to graven images". We must know our works wrought in God if ever they are accepted of Him. Let us then in simplicity and godly sincerity come before the Lord and intercede that He would manifest His power, and create in us a clean heart, and renew in us a right spirit - that we may unitedly travel together for the healing of the heart of the daughter of my people.

The several sittings of our Yearly Meeting have been large, and we have been favoured to transact the various concerns that have come before us in much harmony and Christian concordance; the quickening comforting influence whereof has extended to those in early life, many of whom have been strengthened to evince an increased dedication of heart in faithfulness to Him who calls with a high and holy calling. May these with you and us, be encouraged with holy stability in the fear of the Lord, to resign up all that may be called for at their hands, that in the obedience of Faith they may be found in their allotted sphere of usefulness in the militant Church.

We sympathize with a tried, remnant with you and us, who under deep exercise are often found between the porch and the altar, interceding with the Lord of Sabaoth, that He would spare his people, and give not his heritage to reproach. Feeling deep poverty of spirit yet greatly desiring to abide in faith the turnings of the Lord's holy hand upon them, that possessing their souls in patience, they may be strengthened to endure hardships as good soldiers in the fight of Faith - that so they may inherit a crown of life, which the righteous Judge will give to all those who have the appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

With a salutation of love, we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Sec^y Clerk.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters,

Being again assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity we have been afresh made sensible that the mercies of the Lord are new every morning, that great indeed is His faithfulness. We feel bound reverently to acknowledge on this occasion, that His tender compassion towards us faileth not, and through condescending goodness an evidence hath been vouchsafed us, that as a people we are still owned by the Lord, and that His gracious design is to bless us, and to do us good. May we be found ascribing all praises unto Him, for truly unto us belongeth blessing and confusion of face.

We shall hath an ear let Him hear what the Spirit

said unto the Churches - We believe that the language of the Spirit to the Church at the present time is, that she gather to the place of true waiting, believing that as we are engaged thus to do, we shall be favoured with a spirit of discernment, whereby the stratagems of the enemy may be discovered, and his endeavours to lay waste and destroy the heritage of the Lord, be detected and brought to light.

The state of Society as exhibited by the answers to the queries being spread before us, we have deeply to lament that many deficiencies continue to exist, yet are we comforted in the evidence received that there are many amongst us who feel a living concern that the precious testimonies and Christian Disciplines of our Society, may be supported in their primitive purity and simplicity, and have earnestly desired that this concern both with you and us, may be felt to increase, and its effects appear more conspicuous amongst us.

Our hearts have been strengthened and animated on the present occasion, in the belief that there are many amongst our dear young friends, who also feel bound to the law and to the testimony and who, as they abide under the preparing hand of the Lord, will become qualified for usefulness in His Church, and to fill the places of those dear mothers in our Israel who will ere long be gathered from works to reward, and thus a succession of standard bearers continue to be poured amongst us. And dear Sisters seeing there is that which gathereth and that which scattereth abroad, may we be concerned above all things, to know our fellowship to be with the Father and with his son Jesus Christ, thus shall we be enabled to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. He who testified I am the good shepherd and am known of mine, said also my sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me, but a stranger they will not follow, for they know not the voice of a stranger." May we be earnestly engaged to seek for that true anointing which will enable us clearly to distinguish the true Shepherd from the stranger thus would individual faithfulness prepare us, as a Society, to shew forth the praises of the Lord, and manifest to the world that this is a People He hath chosen for Himself.

The Truth's earnestness and they who keep their habits.

tion in it, are encouragingly, invited to look upon Zion the City
our solemnities, and to behold Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tab-
ernacle that shall not be taken down, not one of whose planks shall
be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.

In conclusion dear sisters we would say, — However numerous the
causes that operate at seasons to produce discouragement, there re-
mains to the upright in heart an unfailing source of consolation
in the Lord — a sure refuge for His people; there is yet Elisha in
Gilead, there is still a Physician there.

Your acceptable Epistle of this year has been received, and read
to the satisfaction and comfort of many minds.

With the love of the sea send you and bid you affectionately
farewell —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Goulds Jun^r Clerk.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

Beloved Sisters,

We have again in humble gratitude reverently
to commemorate the continued goodness of Divine Providence, in
enabling us to meet together in this our annual assembly, which
has been large, and mercifully owned by the holy Head of the
Church, without the influence of whose spirit no religious act can
be acceptably performed, and having in tender mercy been favoured
to feel His love shed abroad in the heart, renewedly strengthen-
ing our confidence in Him who is a present helper in every
needful time, and being deeply impressed with a sense of our
own unworthiness, we desire to offer the tribute of gratitude to Him
who said, "My grace is sufficient for thee, my strength is made
perfect in weakness," and we crave that it may be the care of us
all in lowliness and meekness daily to seek an increase in the
knowledge of God, and of our Lord Jesus Christ, that thereby the
preserving influence of His holy fear may rest upon us, and His
love be felt to spread as a canopy over us: under the cementing
efficacy of this power are we enabled thus to salute in gospel
fellowship all the living members of the household of faith,
whether present or absent.

Although the present is a day of trial and conflict to

those who are engaged to maintain the testimony of the ever blessed
 Truth, our peculiar testimonies and the order and discipline of
 Society, yet dear friends, we have no cause for dismay: as we
 dwell low before Him who hath been as a shield and buckler,
 a bow and battle axe, a front and rear guard to his humble
 dependant children: therefore let us be encouraged to faithfulness
 keeping the eye of the ~~mind~~ single to the light of Truth, having
 confidence in that power that sustains the mind and qualifies
 us to draw near the source and fountain of all consolation.

A lively interest hath been felt for the encouragement of those
 in younger life, both with you and with us, and we would
 in the counsel of truth say to this interesting part of the
 family, be faithful to the teachings of the heavenly Instructor,
 or, that thereby your minds may not be disturbed nor
 your peace interrupted by the reasonings of that spirit
 which would divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel.

We humbly trust under the gathering influence of ancient
 Goodness, we have been favoured at this time to attend to the
 concerns that have come before us in love and Christian con-
 descension. In deliberating thereon, a travail of Spirit has
 been felt to promote the best interests thereof, for the preserva-
 tion of love and unity in the body at large. The more dil-
 igent attendance of our religious meetings has been a subject
 of interest at this time, also that of collecting our families
 and reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures daily, has
 been feelingly recommended, from a full persuasion that
 it would be fruitful of blessing both to parents and children.

We have received your Epistle of the 10th month last which
 tended to the encouragement and comfort of many minds.

We desire that our hearts may be directed unto God, and
 to the patient waiting for Christ, that we may be steadfast,
 immovable always abounding in the work of the Lord.

In gospel love we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

14.
To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of women Friends—

Dear friends,

We trust it is in the feeling of gospel love that we are drawn to salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of last year. Though many of us have come up to this our Annual Assembly under deep discouragement and poverty of Spirit, yet are we bound to acknowledge, that a renewed and consoling evidence of the continued regard of the great Head of the Church has been successfully vouchsafed unto us at this time, and under feelings of great weakness we have again been made livingly sensible that it is only in the Lord our strength can be perfected, and are constrained to magnify his holy name for his gracious condescension to our low estate, by which the blessed promise has been verified to many hearts, that for the crying of the poor and the sighing of the needy He will arise, and in the lifting up of the light of his countenance upon us, we have in our measure been permitted to put on the garment of praise for the Spirit of heaviness. Let us be willing, again and again to go down into suffering, with the suffering seed, and think it not strange concerning the fiery trials that may be permitted to prove our faith, as though some strange thing had happened, but rejoice inasmuch as we are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that when his glory shall be revealed, we may be glad also with exceeding joy. The tender compassion of the most High faileth not. He still designs to bless the provision of Zion, and satisfy her poor with bread, even ^{that eateth} that bread which cometh down from heaven, of which whoso shall eat never dieth.

And seeing, beloved sisters, that the promises of the Lord are yea and amen forever, may those who are called into the active service of the militant Church, and who at times may feel like fainting under the burden and heat of the day, be encouraged to lift up their heads in hope, trusting that as they are concerned to keep the counsel of the Lord, He will be for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

Our meeting is large, and during its several sittings harmony and sisterly condescension have prevailed. Under a solemnizing sense of our high calling in Christ Jesus, earnest

desires have been raised in many hearts that we may walk worthy the vocation, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering,, forbearing, one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

A lively concern and travail of Spirit has prevailed at this time on behalf of the young and rising generation, and mothers have been tenderly exhorted to dedicate their beloved offspring to the Lord, and seek unto Him for that wisdom which is alone profitable to direct in the discharge of the great responsibilities devolving upon them. The importance of frequently collecting our families together for reading portions of the Holy Scripture and waiting upon the Lord, has been felt and recommended as a practice which under the divine blessing will tend to the edification and comfort of both parents and children.

We have had very precious and encouraging evidence at this time, that among the many beloved young sisters in attendance with us, there are those who under the preparing hand of the Lord, have been enabled to covenant with him by sacrifice, and who will if they shrink not from the necessary refinings become instruments of usefulness in His Church and service. In relation to those of this class of Society wherever they may be found, we have earnestly desired that neither the temptations of the world, nor the stumbling blocks of an empty profession of Christianity, may let or hinder their advancement and growth in the Truth - but that by keeping a single eye to Him who has promised to teach his people himself, they may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

We desire that our minds may be directed to the Lord and the word of his grace which is able to build us up, and to give us an inheritance amongst them that are sanctified - we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting
Hannah Gould Saml. D. Clark.

To This Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear friends,

In being permitted to meet together in a Yearly Meeting capacity we are brought to feel in whom are all our fresh supplies, and in humble dependence on our Holy Head, we have experienced through unmerited mercy the stone to be rolled from the well's mouth, and the flock and family have been watered. In a renewed extension of the Father's love, the livingly captured members of the militant Church have realized that "deep calleth unto deep", and have been strengthened to stand resigned to His most holy will, in doing or suffering for the precious cause. and while we mourn in spirit the inroads made in our borders by the enemy of our souls' peace; we are comforted in a renewed evidence that Divine protection is mercifully vouchsafed to His humble depending children who have prevailed in wrestling for the promised blessing and are prepared to adopt this language, "As the Eagle stretcheth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings, so the Lord did lead his chosen and there was no strange God with him."

Your acceptable Epistle was received and read, instructively confirming us in the renewed evidence that as we are concerned to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing, we shall be favoured to joy in the Lord and rejoice in the God of our salvation.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and we trust aided by the Master of all rightly gathered assemblies, even under the prevalence of deep discouragement and self-abasement. wherein the language of the Psalmist has been feelingly adopted. "I was brought low and He helped me," Let us then dear sisters, in the exercise of faith and patience, abide in lowliness and filial fear under the turnings of the Holy Hand upon us that we may experience Zion with judgment and her converts with righteousness.

Much counsel and encouragement hath been extended to those in the morning of life, and mothers have been tenderly admonished to watch over their children, training them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, preparing their tender minds for the reception of the precious seed of the Kingdom; then in the

humble dedication of these precious lambs committed to our care, we may have the consoling evidence that we have been faithful in the trust assigned us.

The state of Society continues to call for renewed vigilance and greater faithfulness in the support of our various testimonies, and we greatly desire that the pure mind may be more effectually stirred up to individual concern, action and diligence henceforth.

Commending one another to the witness for God in our respective homes, we salute you and bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Hannah Goulds Jun^r Clerk.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

In attempting to salute you our beloved sisters, at this time, we are deeply impressed with a renewed conviction that we lack wisdom, and have been in some degree strengthened to seek in faith, that we may be favoured with that unerring direction in the important concerns that may come before us, that clothes the mind with that wisdom which is from above, that is first pure, then peaceable, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy — manifesting the submission our wills to the will of Him who hath gathered us to be a people, and is still mindful of us however unworthy his protecting care.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and we are comforted in the belief, that many of our beloved friends in the morning and meridian of life are under the preparing hand for usefulness — and we reverently believe that neither grace, nor glory nor any good thing will the Lord withhold from those who in godly sincerity and filial fear, stand resigned to His Holy requirements: the will those with you and us, come up from the wilderness leaning upon the beloved of souls.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last was received, and imparted encouragement to our minds, in a renewed belief that our epistolary intercourse is

owned by the mind of the Church, and are comforted in the concern that increasingly prevails amongst you for the religious, guarded education of the dear children, who must ere long take our places in bearing the burden and heat of the day. In a view of our responsibility, we would encourage parents with you and us, in a faithful discharge of our duty, seeing that we may in the universal opinion of best wisdom confer that religious instruction that has often proved an invaluable blessing to the children of exercising concerned parents. And we would call your attention to the diligent perusal of the Holy Scriptures - many can testify that this has been a blessing to them, and that parents may be concerned to gather their children around them when circumstances may prevent their assembling with their friends for public worship - reading some portion of these sacred truths, and in silent waiting upon the Lord, or prayerfully realizing a renewal of their strength.

The account of your Boarding School was interesting to us, and we desire that the overshadowing wing of the Ancient of Days may continue to be spread over it, and that the glorious light of the Sun of righteousness may shine forth for the promotion and advancement of the cause of Truth.

We feel near sympathy with you in the oppression that still exists in your borders in regard to the coloured population, and we greatly desire we may not as a people lose sight of our testimony in relation to Slavery.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Secy. & Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends to be held in Dublin.

Dear Sisters,

Although there has been no Epistolary communication between us, since the establishment of your Plan of meeting, you have been brought feelingly to remembrance at this season, and we are desired to address

given in that love which is unchangeable.

May you, dear sisters, be encouraged "to press toward the mark for the prize, leaving the things that are behind, and in obedience to the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, advance forward in the straight and narrow way", wherein the work of righteousness is found to be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness & assurance forever.

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and we have been favoured with a comfortable evidence that the ancient of days is with us — and under the strengthening influence of His Holy Spirit, many of our minds have been turned in humble acknowledgement for the unmerited extension of His loving kindness and tender mercy. We have been enabled in Christian harmony to conduct the important concerns that have come before us: and notwithstanding it is a low time, and deep baptisms are the portion of the humble in heart, yet as patience is abode in, and a confiding trust in Him maintained, His outstretched arm will be near to preserve, and as in former time, when the children of Israel were closely tried, and were led in the day by a cloudy pillar, and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way they should go, so in a spiritual sense, will those be safely conducted, who with a single eye seek the promotion of His cause, whose Kingdom is not of this world.

May those both with you and among us, upon whom weighty responsibilities devolve, ask counsel of Him, who is strength in weakness, and a present helper in the needful time, and by introversion of spirit, and watchfulness unto prayer, experience day by day, the seasoning visits of Divine grace — so to assist and to qualify for usefulness, that they may be increasingly examples to the flock; holding forth a persuasive invitation, by the influence of their spirits, as exhibited by their movements; Come and have fellowship with us, for our fellowship is with the Father and the Son.

Our dear young friends are objects of deep interest and solicitude — may you be willing in the morning of life

to surrender your hearts unto the Lord. Let His power prevail over the transgressing nature which opposes the operation of His grace — thus will you be brought to experience that the path of our blessed Redeemer is easy and his burden light. It is ways to be ways of pleasantness and all his paths, paths of safety and of peace.

With the salutation of love we are your Sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends to be held in London,

Dear Sisters,

It is only under the cementing influence of that love which is both ancient and new, that we can experience the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. This precious fellowship is the privilege of the Lord's children, whether assembled in a collective capacity, to receive by waiting upon Him renewed qualification to transact the important concerns of Society, or when far separated one from another.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle of last year, was comforting and strengthening to our minds; and we are at this time afresh induced to believe, that as this channel of communication is kept open, through the current of gospel love, it will remain to be instrumental in binding us together, and causing us to be in reality, one People, upon whom the will continue to place His name.

This our Annual Assembly has been large and we have been permitted, through unmerited mercy, to experience the gathering and solemnizing presence of Him who giveth power to the faint, and who increaseth the strength of those who humbly wait for the manifestation of His will, and unreservedly put their trust in Him.

A living concern has been felt for the encouragement to faithfulness of the different classes amongst us. It is a day that calls for deep searching of heart, that we may inwardly ascertain upon what we are building: whether our attention is turned unto the Lord, and in obedience to His

direction we are concerned to stand in the ways, and see, and ask
for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein. The
rest which remaineth for the people of God is found here here
there is ceasing from our own works; renewed anointings of
the Holy Spirit are received from time to time, and the work
assigned us to do, whether in the vineyards of our own hearts,
or in public service will be accomplished to His praise: thus
harmony in the family at large will be witnessed. all brought
under the regulating power of divine love. The enemy also
of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah
shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not enemy Judah, and Ju-
dah shall not vex Ephraim.

A Christian exercise has been awakened in our minds on
account of the responsibilities attached to mothers: we desire
that this interesting class both with you and among us, may
duly feel the weight of their charge, and seek in humble pro-
stration of spirit, for strength and ability rightly to perform
the Divine will in regard to their tender offspring: as they
apply in humility and in faith to the everlasting source,
help will be afforded; and by watchfulness unto prayer, a
blessing will descend, and crown their upright endeavours.
They may thus be made instrumental, at seasons, in
drawing the precious minds of their children into silence
and seriousness; and thus will they become prepared by
the seasoning virtue of divine grace to enter into covenant
with Him who is pleased with an early sacrifice - and who
will not withhold the incomes of His love, but impart strength,
which would enable them as they advance in years, to retain
the dew of their youth. May the brethren be strength-
ened; the heavy hearted be encouraged and animated to
to run the race set before them, looking unto Jesus, the
Author and Finisher of our faith.

Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father and
from the Lord Jesus Christ).

With salutations of love we are your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting,
Hannah Goulds Junr Clerk.

— from (varied).

Newport Oct. Mo. 20th 1844.

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We have received at this nearly

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influenced to their hurt, and being themselves
often the cause of the same to others. They
were much exposed to a severe censure of the
almost imperceptible into the hands of the
of a dissipated world. He therefore desired that all who
the cause of good, should be ever ready and anxious to
own conduct and conversations to be the witness
of it in the eyes of the world.

He also desired that the friends of the
cause, should be ever ready and anxious to be the
witness of it in the eyes of the world.

He also desired that the friends of the
cause, should be ever ready and anxious to be the
witness of it in the eyes of the world.

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cause, should be ever ready and anxious to be the
witness of it in the eyes of the world.

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cause, should be ever ready and anxious to be the
witness of it in the eyes of the world.

Dear Sisters,

... you will know Him to be the good & life-
 giving Father for the sheep - that He still sends
 forth His Spirit to comfort & sustain His people
 who are of the world, who are weak & needy, and whose
 hearts are full of sin - for blessed be His adorable name His
 strength is weakness, riches is poverty, and a present
 is a needful time. Be willing dear young friends
 to be of the flock, and coming up in the name
 of the Lord be joyful in telling your hearts
 to Him.

We then have been thinking about the
 of the Heavenly Father's love, endeavouring
 together for the promotion of truth and right-
 ness.

With a salutation of love we remain most
 signed on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould, Secy. & Clerk.

To the Brethren & Sisters of the Church
 ...
 ...
 ...

will sustain the mind in every season of conflict and
trial, enabling us to get the spirit of the Lord to be in
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, enabling

us to say, "Thine are we David, and on thy side thou be-
gottest, peace, peace be unto thee, and peace to thine
helpers."

with you, and with us, we would affectionately desire
not to grow weary in well doing, remembering that
promise is to those who hold out unto the end, knowing
that at the event, at period which is hastening in us
all the world's language will be to these, "Come ye
blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared
for you from the foundation of the world."

your minds to cherish in your hearts, that each

in your, in every way, are ways of pleasantness, in
all her paths are peace, "She is a tree of life to them that eat

of her fruit, and her seed is peace, and her seed is peace, and her seed is peace,

and her seed is peace, and her seed is peace, and her seed is peace, and her seed is peace,

the pressed, and, as the subject is so serious,
and under great sorrow, be cherished by us all.

With affectionate regards to your family.

Yours truly, Wm. L. G. Allen

Small Lake, N. Y.

New England Yearly Meeting of Friends
 Friends held in. Boston, commenced according to the adjournment
 of last year on the 1st of 1st month 1845.

By accounts received from our Quarterly Meeting, it
 appears that the following friends are their representa-
 tives to this Meeting viz.

Rhode Island - Elizabeth King, Elizabeth Hender, De-
 borah Collins, Hannah Perkins, Elizabeth Packham,
 and Mary Shove.

Salmon Falls - Alice Paige, Mary Chase, Hyman T. Breed,
 Cynthia M. Huntington, Sophronia Page and Eliza-
 beth Page.

Sandwich - Mary King, Judith Swift, & Mary Davies,
 Lydia Hussey, Susan Howland, Phoebe W. Gifford,
 Mary Shepherd, Sarah Barnard and Anne Macomber.

Smithfield - Mary B. Allen, Lydia K. Kelly, Ruth Fay,
 Lydia C. Chase, Alice Rathbun and Hannah Hider.

Talmouth - Anne Furinton, Phoebe Cobb, Lydia Allen,
 Eunice J. Rich and Patience Buffum.

Wassallborough - Deborah B. Warren, Bethiah Hussey,
 Margaret Ratcliffe, Phoebe M. Douglas, Mary D. Stock-
 ington, Martha J. Hodges and Lydia Jenkins.

Dover - Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah Morrel, Susanna
 J. Basset and Hannah Sawyer.

Fairfield - Olive King, Chloe Douglas, Lydia T. Goddard,
 Patience Swan and Phoebe Taylor. Who being called
 are all present excepting one, who forwarded a
 satisfactory reason for her non-attendance.

A paper addressed to New England Yearly Meeting
 of Friends was laid upon the table, purporting to
 be in answer and answers from Rhode Island Quar-
 terly Meeting signed by Martha S. Gould as clerk
 and Mary Buffinton, Patience Chase, Ruth Perkins,
 "Hannah" Benson, Catherine K. Boyd, Sarah S. Kingson,
 Eunice Foster and Martha S. Gould were named therein
 as representatives to this Meeting. Our acknowledged
 Quarterly Meetings have all reported, and being fully
 represented, this document could not be accepted by

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the Meeting - and a number of individuals not in membership being present, we have believed it right to suspend the usual business until some decision may be made which body shall be considered the legitimate Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, and entitled to send representatives to this Meeting. After deliberating on the subject Friends are united in desiring the representatives from all the Quarterly Meetings, Rhode Island Quaker excepted, to take the case into consideration, and report the result of their conference to a future sitting of this Meeting. And under existing circumstances the present Clerks are directed to continue to act in that capacity until the report of the representatives is brought to the Meeting.

The representatives from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and the individuals named in the report of the newly organized Quarterly Meeting are at liberty to meet with the representatives if they desire it.

The adjourn to the 5th hour this afternoon.

2nd day afternoon. Friends met at the hour adjourned to

One of the representatives informed that they were not prepared to report on the subject referred to them this morning.

Soon after the Meeting assembled a person under appointment as one of the representatives from Providence Quarterly rose and said that the representatives had met and proposed Martha S. Goulds for Clerk and Judith Swift for assistant Clerk. contrary to the direction of this Meeting as by Minute of this morning. But the person thus nominated proceeded to act as Clerk so that some reading to the interruption of the Meeting. Under a solemn sense of the entire impropriety of this course as being contrary to the well established order of our religious Society, it was condemned, and Friends warned of the serious consequences that must necessarily result from their uniting in this measure.

The representatives were called who answered to their

names with the exception of Mrs. Wm. & Mary Davis by
Judith Swift - the other representatives I do remember
knew nothing of, the meeting for the selection of Clerks.
We adjourn to the 7th hour tomorrow morning.

Third day morning Friends met pursuant to adjournment.
Soon after the meeting opened three persons from Sand-
wich Quarterly Meeting viz. Mary Davis, Judith Swift,
and Mary Gardner came in and requested the occupancy
of the Clerk's table, and books and papers for the use
of the Clerks appointed yesterday. They were informed, that
New England Yearly Meeting could not acquiesce them
consistently with its order and discipline - and that
a free and full testimony had been borne in this Meet-
ing to their disorderly proceedings yesterday, and a
decided disunity therewith manifested - they were
then desired quietly to withdraw which they did.

The representatives having had several opportu-
nities together, and deliberately considered the subject
committed to their charge, submitted their report to
the Meeting, which is united with, the statements
and explanations are satisfactory to Friends and
is as follows, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England now sitting
We your Committee to hear the Several persons
claiming to be representatives from Rhode Island Quar-
terly Meeting, and to deliberate upon and report our
judgment, which of said persons ought to be so received,
and also which of the bodies claiming to be Rhode Island
Quarterly Meeting, subordinate to this Yearly Meeting
ought to be recognised as such - Now inform the
Yearly Meeting, that we duly notified said persons
so claiming to be representatives from Rhode Island
Quarterly Meeting, of the time and place of our Meet-
ing to hear them upon the subjects committed to us.

Four of the persons named as representatives in the
account signed by Charles Perry as assistant Clerk
appeared before the Committee, and one of them speaking
on behalf of the representatives from that Meeting

stated, that they declined entering into any investigation of the subject, as they denied the jurisdiction of the Committee in the case, and then withdrew.

Joseph Metcalf, Roseland Greene, William Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Longdon, David Buffum, David Shove, Oliver Earle, John Meader, Peter Pick, and Beriah Collins - named as representatives in the account presented to the Yearly Meeting, and signed by David Buffum as Clerk - and Elizabeth Meader and Mary Shove on the part of the Women's Quarterly Meeting, represented by Sarah Tibbety as Clerk - appeared & alledged to us, that in Swansea Monthly Meeting for a long time past, there had been a want of that love and unity which are essential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth. That about two years ^{since} Committees were appointed in that Meeting, to propose the names of Clerks, and overseers of Society, but they were unable to agree upon Friends for those stations. That the state of this Meeting, had claimed the attention of the Yearly Meetings Committee, and also of a Committee of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, previous to our last Yearly Meeting, and much labour had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing difficulties, and to produce that organization of the Meeting that would enable it to carry into effect the discipline - the administration of which had been seriously interrupted. They further alledged, that the Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, "to assist and advise such Meetings and members as circumstances may require and way open for", with a number of the Quarterly Meetings Committee then under appointment, met with those two Committees of the Monthly Meeting in the 2^d month last, and united with a part of them in their proposing to the Meeting the names of certain friends for Clerks and Overseers: that with the exception of two or three individuals, all the members of those Committees of the Monthly Meeting, either united with the names proposed, or expressed their acquiescence therein, and they were accordingly

reported by those Committees to the Monthly Meeting, and the report was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. A few individuals opposed it, and the Clerk who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the meeting although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meetings Committee then in attendance.

It further appeared that the following advice from the Yearly Meetings Committee was given in writing to the Monthly Meeting at this time, viz.

To Swansea Monthly Meeting,

Dear Friends,

The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting "to extend a general care on its behalf for the preservation of love and unity among our members, the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the support of the discipline of the Church; and in the ability that may be afforded them to assist and advise such Meetings and members as circumstances may require, and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom" — having from a belief that our duty under our appointment required it, and with the Committees of your Meeting, appointed about two years since to propose the names of Overseers and Clerks and apprehending that the cause of truth and the right exercise of our Christian discipline urgently demands that there should be no further delay in the cases, were united in giving the following advice.

It appearing by the voluntary declaration of those members of a Committee who were present, appointed as we apprehend without the authority of discipline, and out of the usual order of Society, to assist the overseers when they presented a complaint against an individual, that they believed Edmund Chase to be innocent of the charges preferred against him by said individual, and that they did not intend in their report to the Monthly Meeting to implicate him: we were united in judgment that this document ought not to be retained by the Monthly Meeting, nor retained among its papers, but destroyed.

The Committee in Question informed us that they agreed upon five friends for this station, and there being but one of them from within the limits of Hall's River preparative Meeting, it being usual to appoint two from that Meeting; in view of the circumstances, we were united in advising the Committee to propose to the Monthly Meeting to appoint Edmund Chase, in addition to those named, there appearing not to be any ground for the objections originally urged against this expectation of appointment.)

The Committee in relation to Clerks informed us that they could not agree upon names; and after a full consideration of the case, we thought it right to advise the Committee to propose to the Monthly Meeting to appoint David Chase for Clerk, and Jonathan Hubbard for assistant Clerk. And we were united in advising the Monthly Meeting to make these appointments, and to carry into effect these recommendations, believing that hereby the best interests of the Monthly Meeting, and its preservation in the unity of the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings will be promoted.

On behalf of the Yearly Meetings' Committee,
Rowland Tamm.

They further attested that the condition of the Station as it then stood was presented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month, which again appointed a Committee to visit Swansey Monthly Meeting, and assist in its due organization, that our Christian Discipline might be supported, as in former days, to the honour of Truth.

That at the following Monthly Meeting the individuals who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in their determination to hold that Station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meetings' Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meetings' Committee, and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Meeting) united in the appointment as Clerk of the friend who had been selected at the

precious Meeting - He proceeded to open the Meeting, and the Representatives from all the former Anti-Slavery Meetings presented to him the Reports from those Meetings, and afterwards to the calling of their names. That notwithstanding this decision of the Meeting, the former Clerk (Thomas Willard) continued to sit at the table, and to form and read minutes - and to prevent confusion, Friends, after having read the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting appointing its Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon. - By far the greater part of the men's Meeting - and all the women with many from the Anti-Slavery Society, assembling again at the same place, proceeded to transact the business of the meeting.

But the persons who sustained the former Clerk in his decision against the judgment of the Meeting, with several women who were also dissatisfied towards Society, continued to hold what they called Monthly Meetings, and that at Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in the eleventh month, they presented an account purporting to come from Swansea Monthly Meeting, which was not received or in any way acknowledged. That after the business of the Quarterly Meeting was concluded, these individuals, with a few from the other Monthly Meetings, both men and women, most of whom had for a length of time openly manifested a want of unity with Friends residing in the house, and called themselves Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, appointing Clerks and a Committee to visit subordinate Meetings. That this Committee, thus appointed, has since visited the Monthly Meetings, and attempted to sit in them and to be recognized as a Committee from the Quarterly Meeting, organized as has been described, in a manner wholly irregular and unauthorized by us. That most of their number being already engaged, as offenders in their respective Monthly Meetings, and refusing to leave Friends, select for the

subject of our Discipline, adjournment has been reported to in order to be freed from this intrusion.

That a few individuals have been found in each of the Monthly Meetings in Rhode Island Quarters, who being disaffected towards the body of Friends, have under the advisement of this Committee united in forming what they denominate Monthly Meetings, assuming to themselves the names of these Meetings respectively.

These allegations and the remarks upon them by said persons named as representatives of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in the accounts presented to the Yearly Meeting signed by David Buffum as Clerk, we have fully substantiated upon, and it is our judgment and sense, and we do accordingly report to the Yearly Meeting — that the allegations of Joseph Metcalf and others, on behalf of the body claiming to be Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of which David Buffum and Sarah Wilbur are Clerks are true, as follows viz: That at Swansea Monthly Meeting in the seventh month, the report of ~~said~~ ^{the} Committee of said Monthly Meeting, proposing David Shove as Clerk and Jonathan Truborn as assistant Clerk, and Oliver Earl, Simpson Buffinton, Theophilus Shove, David Shove, Jonathan Truborn and Edmund Chase as oversees was fully united by the large body of the members of that Meeting. That a few individuals opposed it, and Thomas Wilbur, the Clerk who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meetings Committee in attendance. That at Swansea Monthly Meeting in the eighth month, Thomas Wilbur who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in attempting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meetings Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meetings Committee, and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time,

with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Monthly Meeting, united in the appointment of Clerk of David Shove, he proceeded to open the Meeting, and the representatives from all the preparative Meetings presented to him the reports of their Meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. That the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, and the Eleventh Month last, decided rightly, when they received the account from the said Monthly Meeting, signed by David Shove as Clerk, and acknowledged the representations contained in that account from Swansea Monthly Meeting. We are united in judgment, that at said Monthly Meeting in the 7th month, Thomas Wilbur was bound by the discipline and good order of our Society, to record the clearly expressed sense of the Monthly Meeting, appointing David Shove as its Clerk, in accordance with the advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and by refusing to do so, so far departed from the discipline and usages of our Society, as well as from the subordination of inferior to Superior Meetings, and individuals to the body, as to disqualify him from any longer holding the office of Clerk of Swansea Monthly Meeting; and said office thereupon became vacant.

And it is further our sense and judgment, that at Swansea Monthly Meeting in the 8th month, David Shove was rightfully the Clerk, having been there duly appointed, and was, remained, and is, the only properly constituted Clerk of Swansea Monthly Meeting; Thomas Wilbur, therefore, and those who continued to act with him as Clerk, under the name of Swansea Monthly Meeting, sending representatives to the Quarterly Meeting in the Eleventh month, are united in considering as Separatists from our Religious Society, and out of its unity, and not entitled to be considered as a Monthly Meeting of our religious Society.

Those persons who at the Quarterly Meeting in the Eleventh month, remained in the house after the Quarterly Meeting had concluded, under the name

of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and appointed a Clerk, received accounts and representations from the body calling itself a Quarterly Meeting, of which Thomas Walker is the Clerk — we are also united in judgment are out of the unity of this Yearly Meeting and not entitled to be represented in this Meeting, nor to be considered a Quarterly Meeting of our Religious Society.

It is therefore our united sense and judgment, that the accounts from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting signed by David Buffum and Sarah A. Tobey as Clerks, should be received as the true accounts from said Quarterly Meeting, and that Joseph M. Hall, Rowland Bruce, William Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, David Shove, Oliver Gask, John Meader, Perez Deck and Beniah Collins on the part of the men's Meeting, and Elizabeth King, Elizabeth Meader, Deborah Collins, Hannah Dennis, Elizabeth Stark and Mary Shove on the part of the Women's Meeting, should be considered and acknowledged as the representatives from that Quarterly Meeting to this Yearly Meeting — Which is submitted to the judgment of the Yearly Meeting.

Thomas Jones	Elijah Hussey	Joseph Taylor	Margaret Ratcliffe
Esther Birchall	Ezekiel H. Dean	Benjamin Wheeler	Hannah Halse
Benjamin Fry	Frederic Swan	Jacob N. Purinton	Anne Luntz
Moses Farnum	Saleb Jones	Joel Marsh	Lydia Allen
Daniel Clapp	Isaac W. Gifford	Herod Chase	Ruth Fry
Nathaniel Stevens	Emoch Page	James A. Fay	Abigail Fitch
Nathan Dipe	Oliver D. Rogers	Joseph Taber	Lydia Jenkins
Lucas Lawrence	William Fitchie	David Douglas	Cynthia M. Huntington
Simtha Hanson	Allen King	William C. Taber	Mary Chase
John Howland	Nathan Breed	Henry Shier	Carice J. Rich
Samuel Shad	Peter M. Blackpole	Frank Barnard	Higginson H. Brown
Walter Sawyer	John M. Hise	Abigail M. Hanson	Shelby Taylor
Stephen Jones junr	Elijah Johnson	Phile Cobb	Martha C. Rogers
Walter H. Rogers	John Page	John C. Lewis	Susan Howland
Elizabeth Jones	Abigail Huntington	John H. Hise	Sophronia Page
Samuel Ratcliffe	Joseph M. Hall	Elizabeth H. Hise	Abigail Douglas

and Greenwich Monthly Meeting denied the right of membership to Lydia Milbur and Eunice Foster, (formerly members of the Select Meeting). That Smithfield Quarter has united with Smithfield Monthly Meeting in appointing Abigail Inman to the station of an Elder, Wassalborough Quarter unites with Wassalborough Monthly Meeting in appointing Lydia Mower to the same station. Dover Quarter has united with Dover Monthly Meeting in approving the gift in the ministry of Benjamin H. Jones, and in the appointment of Timothy Hanson to the station of Elder. Fairfield Quarter has united with St Albans Monthly Meeting in appointing to the same station Susanna Jones, and Hallowell Quarterly Meeting informed that they united with the Select Meeting in the appointment as Elders of Abraham and Phoebe Winslow.

Acceptable Epistles have been received and read from our beloved sisters of London, New York, Baltimore and Ohio, the animating language ~~therein~~ contained therein has been consoling and encouraging to many amongst us.

We adjourn to the time our members may meet tomorrow ^{Thursday} morning Friends convened near the 7th hour

The Queries, with answers from all our Quarterly Meetings have been read - and the state of Society thus presented to our view, produced much exercise on account of the deficiencies acknowledged to exist within our borders - particularly the neglect in many of the due attendance of our religious Meetings - and Friends were tenderly exhorted to increased faithfulness in this respect, believing that when an indifference herein is yielded to our growth in grace is retarded and our love to the cause of truth and one unto another is endangered, for unless we dwell under the influence of divine love, we cannot expect to be preserved in the fellowship of the Gospel. The precious youth were admonished to guard against the vanities and customs of the world, which they will find to be res-

ation of spirit, and will assuredly lead from the paths of safety and of peace.

Epistles from the Yearly Meetings of Indiana and North Carolina have been read, containing counsel and remarks which we desire may stir up the pure mind in us individually, and incite us to more diligence, and an increased devotion to Him who alone can prosper us in every good word and work.

On considering the subject of addressing our dear sisters of other Yearly Meetings we have appointed our friends Susan Howland, Lydia Breed, Sarah A. Tobey, Elizabeth Anna Phelps, W. Gifford, Theodore Linn, Sophronia Page, Anna A. Jenkins, Hannah B. Sawyer, Rhoda Howland, Ann Jones, Mary Shove, Martha J. Hodges, Alice Rathbun, Abigail M. Hanson, Sarah Leach, Patience D. Swan, Ruth Davis, Hannah Merrill, Elizabeth Meader, and Alice Paige, to prepare essays, if way should open therefor, and bring them to future sittings of this Meeting.

The Minutes of last year were now read.

Under the present peculiarly trying circumstances in which we are now placed, we have believed that a solemn duty devolved upon this Meeting, both to wards its subordinate Meetings and members, as well as to our brethren and sisters of other Yearly Meetings — And under a deep feeling of the responsibility resting upon us, we appoint Hannah Gould, Ann Hopkins, Susan Howland, Anna A. Jenkins, Elizabeth Meader, Lydia Thomson, Mary Wing, Deborah B. Warren, Elizabeth Wing, Ann E. Lang, Hannah B. Sawyer, Mary Taber, Theodore Linn, Mary C. Taber, Phoebe Taylor, and Anne Macomber to unite with our more friends who may be under a similar appointment, to take into solid consideration, what they apprehend is called for at their hands — and if way should open for it, prepare and present to a future sitting of this Meeting, such Essay or Essays as will give notice of the circumstances that have had a tendency to produce the occasion that has had a tendency taken place.

from our beds, and also to manifest our continued adherence to the ancient doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society.

We adjourn to half past four o'clock this afternoon. Fourth day afternoon met agreeably to adjournment. Certificate was read from Darlington Monthly endorsed by Durham Quarterly Meeting - and one from the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, on behalf of our beloved friend John Puse, who is acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting. John Puse was accompanied by Samuel Willis, with a Minute from the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Wilmington Del.

A Copy of a minute from Westbury and Jericho Monthly Meeting on behalf of Thomas Willis - one from Purchase Monthly Meeting for Richard Mott - and one from Amwell Monthly Meeting on behalf of James Jordan have been read to our satisfaction - their company and religious labours having been acceptable to this Meeting.

The Report of the Boarding School Committee was read, is satisfactory to friends, and is as follows - viz.

In the Yearly Meeting -

The Boarding School Committee report, That they have endeavored during the past year, to discharge the duties entrusted to them by the Yearly Meeting, in superintending the concerns of the Boarding School. The average number of scholars has been eighty. Meetings have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations, and harmony has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Olive Wing, who have acceptably served the Institution as Superintendents for several years past, having requested to be released at the close of the last summer term, we engaged our friends Olney and Lydia Thompson to take their places, and they entered upon the duties of that station in the 10th month last. Charles Sherton, William Richardson and Edward Hoag are engaged as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Mary Sherton, Gertrude E. Whittier, and Elizabeth Prosser, in the Girls'.

Elizabeth J. Aldrich has been employed as Teacher in the Girls' School the past year.

The Treasurer's and Superintendents accounts have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School from all sources, the past year, has been \$9,380. ^{$\frac{40}{100}$} , and its expenditures \$4,134. ^{$\frac{47}{100}$} , including \$1,542. ^{$\frac{59}{100}$} paid for land purchased from a donation, and in accordance with the will of our late friend Moses Brown. And there is now a balance in the Treasury of \$4,469. ^{$\frac{4}{100}$} .

We would propose that the price of board and tuition be continued the same as last year, viz: \$30 per term for members of our Yearly Meeting, \$45 for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and \$50 for those of other Yearly Meetings. — Books and Stationery being furnished as at present. We also deem it safe to propose, that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar free of expense for one term; and that they may occupy this privilege either during the next winter term, or during the summer term next year, according to the discretion of the Monthly Meeting; but that if the Monthly Meeting desires to occupy the privilege in the summer term, as now proposed, it shall inform the acting Committee thereof at their meeting in the 10th month, [held on the 7th day thereof.]

The Schools have been examined at the close of each term by a committee appointed for that purpose, and by their reports it appears that they have been generally satisfied with the evidence afforded by the diligence and application of the children to their studies, of their orderly deportment, and of the faithfulness and ability of the Teachers. Instruction continues to be given in the languages when desired, on the same terms as heretofore, viz: \$5 additional for the term.

The object that Friends had in view in the establishment of this Institution, and the lively

concern the Society has felt and continues to feel, that the youth among us may have the advantages of a good school, without exposure to those associations which in a greater or less degree tend to alienate their tender minds from the simplicity of our profession; may, we trust, in good degree be realized by placing our children in this Institution. And we would affectionately encourage Friends to be willing to make some sacrifice, if sacrifice be required, to afford those under their care an opportunity to acquire a sound and guarded education.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the School Committee,
Jonathan L. Stocum, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th Mo. 2nd, 1845.

A lively Memorial from the Monthly Meeting of Sandwich N.H. and approved by Dover Quarterly Meeting concerning our dear deceased friend Huldah B Hoag, has been read to our instruction; awakening in us the desire that our hearts may be inclined to receive the impressive lesson addressed to us all - even this that ~~that~~ the path of dedication and faithfulness is the way to peace and rest.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow. The Meeting for worship to be held in the morning - Fifth day afternoon. Friends convened at the 11th hour.

The Committee appointed for that purpose have prepared a Summary from the Answers to the Queries, which was read, approved and is as follows - viz.

By accounts received at this time it appears that all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been kept up, except a few omitted in consequence of indisposition and inclement weather, and that those on first days have been generally attended by most of our members, yet there is an evident want of concern in some, in regard to this important duty; more particularly in the attendance of mid-week Meetings, on which account some labour has been bestowed. The hour nearly observed, and most friends preserved from

sleeping, and other unbecoming behaviour when assembled. Love and unity are in a good degree maintained amongst us, and there appears to be a care with most friends to guard against detraction, yet through unwatchfulness in some cases it too much prevails. Care is taken to end differences where they have arisen.

Most friends endeavour to bring up those under their direction in plainness - to discourage the perusal of pernicious books and corrupt conversation and to be exemplary herein themselves, yet some deficiencies are apparent, and a more watchful care and early restraint in some instances appears to be necessary. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in friends families.

The use of spirituous liquors is mostly confined to medicinal purposes - Not wholly clear of attending places of public resort - A good degree of moderation is observed on account of births, marriages and on other occasions.

The circumstances of the poor have been inspected and their necessities relieved - their children partake of learning, to fit them for business - and care is taken to place them amongst Friends.

Most parents and heads of families, with some of the young and unmarried are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline, yet some deviations have occurred, most of which are under notice.

Our testimony against an hiring ministry is in a good degree maintained: Clear in the other particulars of this query.

It appears friends are generally careful to inspect their affairs and settle their affairs, and endeavour to be punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Mostly clear as to records, and nearly so in regard to certificates.

Friends have endeavoured to deal with offenders

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in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, but more
kindly and extensive labour appears to be necessary.
No deficiency is apparent in placing judgment.

An interesting Epistle from Virginia Yearly Meeting
held 5th month 1844 has been acceptably read -

The London printed Epistle of last year has been ac-
ceptably read, and its valuable and instructive content,
very comforting, and edifying).

The subject of the appointment of a School Committee
(being) spread before us - the names of those appointed
last year, were read, and Friends were united in con-
tinuing them to serve for the year ensuing - and they are
desired to report next year.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow
Sixth day morning Friends assembled near the 10th hour.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of London, Lon-
don, and Philadelphia have been read, were approved
and signed.

Our men friends furnished us with the Minutes of
the Meeting for Sufferings of the past year, from these
several interesting portions of their proceedings have
been laid before us; and we esteem it a privilege to
be made acquainted with the concern and labour of
this body - for the promotion of the best interests of the
Society.

The joint Committee of men and women friends under
appointment to visit Subordinate Meetings and indi-
vidual members presented the annexed report,

To the Yearly Meeting,

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends
appointed last year to visit subordinate Meetings and
individual members, and under the direction of best
wisdom to labour for the preservation, promotion of
love and unity, the maintenance of our Christian prin-
ciples and Testimonies, and the support of the discipline
of the Church. - Report, That the attention and care of
the Committee was early turned to the condition of Swansey
Monthly Meeting, a branch of Rhode Island Quarterly

Meeting. In Swansea Monthly Meeting for a long time past, there has been a want of that love and unity which are essential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth.

About two years since Committees were appointed in that Meeting to propose the names of Clerks and Overseers of Society, but they were unable to agree upon Friends for those stations. The state of this Meeting had claimed the attention of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and also of a Committee of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting previous to our last Yearly Meeting, and much labor had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing difficulties, and to produce that organization of the Meeting that would enable it to carry into effect the Discipline - the administration of which had been seriously interrupted.

A number of the members of this Committee, with a number of the Quarterly Meetings, Committee then under appointment, met with those two Committees of the Monthly Meeting in the 7th month, and united with a part of them in their proposing to the Meeting the names of certain Friends for Clerks and Overseers. With the exception of two or three individuals, all the members of these Committees of the Monthly Meeting, either united with the names proposed, or expressed their acquiescence therein. They were accordingly reported by those Committees to the Monthly Meeting, and the report was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. A few individuals opposed it, and the Clerk, who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, although earnestly advised to do so by the Quarterly Meeting's Committee in attendance.

And we are fully of the judgment, that Thomas Milbur at Swansea Monthly Meeting in the 7th month, in refusing to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, so far departed from the unity of the body, as to disqualify him from any longer holding the office of Clerk to that Meeting.

The condition of that Meeting as it then stood, was represented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month, which again appointed a Committee to visit Swansea Monthly Meeting, and assist in its due organisation, that our Christian Discipline might be supported, as in former days, to the honour of Truth.

At the following Monthly Meeting, the individual who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in attempting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meetings Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of this Committee — and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time, (with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Meeting), united in the appointment as Clerk of the friend, David Shove, who had been selected at the previous Meeting, he proceeded to open the Meeting, and the Representatives from all the Preparative Meetings, presented to him the reports from those Meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. Notwithstanding this decision of the Meeting, the former Clerk, Thomas Wiltun, continued to sit at the table, and to form and read minutes; and to prevent confusion, Friends, after having read the minute of the Quarterly Meeting appointing its Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon — by far the larger part of the men's Meeting, and all the women, withdrawing from the house, and mostly assembling again at the hour of adjournment, to transact the business of the Meeting.

We are united in judgment, that the appointment of David Shove as Clerk of Swansea Monthly Meeting was according to the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting — which office he continues to hold.

We have endeavoured during the past year also as way opened for it, to labour for the promotion of the further object of our appointment, and to discharge the duties devolving upon us under it, according to the ability afforded. — All which we submit to the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

Alex Wing,

Hannah Dennis.

Newport 6th month 20th 1845

Which [report] being read and deliberately considered, was fully united with, and their proceedings approved by this and the Men's Meeting. — And believing that usefulness will result from the appointment of a similar Committee — we have referred the selection of names for this purpose, to the representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, who are to act in conjunction with our men friends — who have [we are informed] adopted this course of proceeding.

The preparing of returning Certificates and Minutes for our friends who are with us from other Yearly Meetings is left to the care of the Corresponding Committee.

We adjourn to the 5th hour this afternoon.

6th day afternoon — Near the time adjourned to Friends convened.

Essays of Epistles to Ohio and New York Yearly Meetings were read, approved and signed.

The representatives having met to propose the names of friends to compose a Committee to visit subordinate Meetings and individual members have agreed upon the following, viz. Elizabeth Wing, Miriam Newhall, Anne Macomber, Lydia Allen, Ruth Fry, Anna Bates, Ruth Sawyer, Chloe Douglas, Susan Howland, Ruth Davis, Hannah Dennis, Deborah W. Warren, Lydia Thompson, Olive Wing and Hannah S. Sawyer — this nomination being united with, they are appointed to that service the ensuing year, and are desired to give such attention to the object of their appointment, under the direction of best wisdom, as circumstances may require and way open for — and report to the Meeting next year.

It having been proposed, was united with — viz:

The times and places of holding our several Quarterly Meetings being specified in the Book of Discipline — and the circumstances existing in one or more of the Quarters rendering it probable that a greater

discretion to be given to such Quarterly Meetings than is provided in the discipline, will promote the more satisfactory accomplishment of the business thereof. It is our conclusion and advice that for the year ensuing, such Quarterly Meetings may be at liberty to adjourn their meeting, held at the specified times, from the place now provided, to any other place within the limits of such Quarterly Meeting - said Quarterly Meeting acting therein in accordance with the advice of the Committee appointed at this time, for the Yearly Meetings to visit advise and assist such of our subordinate Meetings as circumstances may render necessary. And the same liberty is granted to such Preparative and Monthly Meetings as may be similarly situated.

An Essay of an Epistle to Baltimore Yearly Meeting was read and being approved was signed.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may conclude to meet.

7th day morning Friends assembled near the 10th hour. Adjourned to the time our men friends may meet 7th day afternoon - met near the 4th hour.

The number of friends appointed to visit subordinate Meetings appearing on reconsideration to be insufficient - the representatives were desired to bring to this Meeting some names in addition to those handed yesterday. They accordingly proposed: Ann C. Lang, Elizabeth Meader, Alice Kasklin, Phebe W. Bifford, Alice Page, Mary Shove, Sophronia Page, Hulda Bifford, Abigail W. Hanson, Sarah Barnard, Eunice J. Rich and Lydia Hussey - which being acceptable to the Meeting they are appointed to unite with the committee before named in the service allotted them.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may conclude to meet.

2nd day the 22nd, Friends met at the 9th hour. An Essay of an Epistle to North Carolina Yearly Meeting was read, approved and signed.

A Comprehensive statement of facts and circumstances, in relation to the cause and progress, of the afflictive Secession which has taken place in this Society. Having been read at this time and unanimously full and free expression of approbation was manifested - and believing it well adapted to inform and convince those who may not have had an opportunity of knowing the ground of the difficulties existing amongst us - we adopt it - and the Clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

A Declaration of our belief in the Doctrines and Testimonies of our Ancient Friends was presented, partly read, and its continuation referred to another sitting.

We adjourn to the third hour this afternoon - 2nd day afternoon. Friends not pursuant to adjournment.

The representatives being called were all present who attended the first sitting, excepting 5 - who gave satisfactory reasons for leaving previously to the close of the Meeting - and two who withdrew on second day.

The remainder of the Declaration, referred this morning, was read, and the full unity and approbation of the Meeting therewith expressed. The Clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

M. B. These documents are recorded on the 190th & 191st pages of this book.

Endorsements were placed on the Certificates and Minutes of our friends who are with us from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

An Epistle from this, to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings and individual members has been read united with and the Clerk directed to sign it on behalf of this Meeting - and to forward it as directed, together with transcripts of Epistles, received at this time.

To the Monthly Meeting of Dartington the
Quarterly Meeting of Exeter and the Yearly
Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

Our beloved friend John Pease, on whose behalf
we issued Certificates last year, has since that time
acceptably attended most of the Meetings in our
Yearly Meeting which he had not previously visited.
He has been in attendance with us during our
present Meeting — and ^{his} labours of love in the Gospel
among us have been sound and truly comforting
and edifying.

With ^{com-}pliance of near sympathy into which
we have been disposed together, we trust will be long
cherished by us — and we can cheerfully certify
that his dedicated, Christian course, during his
sojourn within our borders, has won a near in-
dwelling with the Master, and his solid depart-
ment has been in accordance with his religious
profession, and much to the satisfaction of Friends.

And, now, that the time of his embarkation for
his native land seems to be drawing nigh, we earnest-
ly desire that he may have the blessed assurance that
he has finished the work assigned him in our land,
and that he may be favoured to be restored to his family
and friends with the answer of that peace which the
Apostles declare to be the fruit of the Spirit of Christ.

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting
of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island from
the 15th to the 23rd, inclusive, of the 6th mo. 1845, by

Abraham Shearman jun^r & Clerk.

Hannah Gould jun^r & Clerk.

To the Monthly Meeting of Hull, the Quarterly
Meeting of York, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers
and Elders of London.

Dear Friends,

We have had at this Meeting the company
of our beloved friend Isabel Casson, who produced

satisfactory certificates from your respective Meetings.

The attendance of this our dear friend at this Meeting, and her solid and exemplary deportment and Gospel labours have been truly acceptable, instructive and edifying to us. Our feelings have been introduced into near unity with our beloved friend, and in now parting from her on the eve of her embarkation for Native Land, we commend her to the preserving care of the Shepherd of Israel, earnestly desiring that she may be restored in safety to her friends, with the reward of peace.

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island from the 15th to the 30th inclusive of 6th mo. 1845.

Abraham Shearman jun^r Clerk.

Hannah Goulds jun^r Clerk.

The above certificates were very cordially united with by this Meeting, and the Clerk directed to sign them in its behalf.

Having entered on the important concerns of this Meeting in much weakness, and under circumstances of peculiar trial, the aspirations of many hearts were raised to Him who is the alone Helper of His people. And now in conclusion, for the favour from persons to season & refreshed unto us, enabling us to transact the business in harmony and love - under the influence of that wisdom which is profitable to direct, we in much feeling acknowledge that the Lord is good to those who seek Him in sincerity and singleness of heart - under a solemnizing sense thereof, and in much unity and nearness one unto another, we conclude, & purposing if permitted to meet at the usual time and place next year.

On behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Goulds Jun^r Clerk.

Epistle to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, within the limits of New England Yearly Meeting, and the individual Members of the Society of Friends.

Beloved friends,

Assembled together at our accustomed time and place for the transaction of the affairs of our religious Society in New England, with sincere desires for the health and prosperity of all our brethren and sisters in the ever blessed Truth, and the advancement of the cause of our Redeemer in the earth, circumstances have arisen with which we deem it essential to make you acquainted.

For a long series of years it pleased the Great Head of the Church to watch over us and permit us to meet together in love, and to enable us to resolve the various important matters which came before us to mutual comfort and edification: we have not been without our trials, but strength was afforded to meet them. We were in great measure spared the afflictions which fell upon Friends in various sections of our Society on this continent, from unsoundness in the fundamental doctrines of our holy religion, producing divisions with them, whilst we continued a united and increasing people.

Many of you are nevertheless sensible that for years past a few individuals in some places have given concern to the rightly exercised among us: that of late times this spirit by which they were influenced has shown itself more conspicuously, and led to a separation in one of our quarters. Upon our first gathering together at this time several of those who had thus caused grief to Friends appeared and presented an account purporting to be from their Quarterly Meeting, which, with sincere desires that they might have a full opportunity of stating their case, and if needful have the desired relief, was referred in the first place to the Representatives in a body, exclusive of those from the Quarterly Meeting from which two accounts were presented, / no objection being made to their case being opened in the meeting in its collective capacity,

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Should this be subsequently judged best. The persons who
claimed to be aggrieved denied the jurisdiction of this committee,
and with others coming to our afternoon sitting, proceeded in
what they termed the business of New England Yearly Meeting,
to the interruption of Friends, remaining in the house till
the minute of adjournment was read — since which they
have not been with us, but as we are informed assembled
in another place, thus effecting the painful work of Sep-
aration, which had been commenced in Rhode Island
Quarterly Meeting. During the time alluded to and since,
Friends have been mercifully favoured to preserve much
mental equanimity and becoming order, proceeding in
their business, we trust, in the wisdom of Truth, and in
numbers not fewer than in former years.

It is not for us in this communication to enter into those
remote causes which have led to this painful result. They
might, doubtless, be found in a departure from humble,
lowly waiting upon Christ, and faithfully following the leading
and guidance of His blessed Spirit: by unwatchfulness in this
respect the door has been opened for the accuser of the brethren
to come in. And it may not be wrong to inquire whether
there are not herein evidences of a lack of that deep sense of
the fallen condition of man, of our need of that redemption
which comes by Christ, and the value of the means provided
for our help. Had those who are now troubling us been ground-
ed in that faith which works by love to the purifying of the
heart, would they not have found, — as we seek, shall we not
all find — that necessity for a deep indwelling with the
Spirit of Truth, which preserves from such un-called for
and unsanctified proceedings?

Dear friends, we have had, and shall have much to bear;
misrepresentation of fact in respect of our disciplinary
proceedings; false and utterly unfounded charges of a gen-
eral unsoundness of doctrine amongst us have been widely
circulated; brethren and sisters, whose lives are before us,
have been unsparingly traduced.

We have with great unanimity issued a statement,
which has been deliberately read and considered in both

our Men's and Women's Meetings, of the facts of the case, and a declaration of our unshaken faith as Christians and as Friends — these documents we earnestly recommend to your serious personal attention. Connected with their perusal, let us seek after living aspirations to commit our way in well doing, unto the Lord.

From the days of our worthy predecessors, George Fox, Robert Barclay, William Penn and others, in every trial of this description which has been permitted Friends in this country or our beloved brethren of Great Britain, charges have been freely made, as of false doctrine, misapplied discipline, the rule and influence of station, gifts, talents, wealth and learning — with what truth, in past days, their invaluable writings set forth — with no more truth are they now urged.

It is fallible; but with the intensity of action which has attended all the movements in this matter, many of you are acquainted, and know full well that the charges are utterly untenable, and proof in these matters impossible; but, affecting as it is, there seems to be a remarkable recklessness in many who have fallen into this snare as to results.

During most of two centuries the Yearly Meetings of Friends have, although independent bodies, occupied much common ground, in addition to that of uniting in the same profession of our Christian faith. Ministers recognised in one, have been so acknowledged, and encouraged to labour in others; the transfer of rights to membership and intermarriage have not been affected by Yearly Meeting lines.

Regardless of the blessings which those wise provisions our forefathers have led us to enjoy, the movements now made must cripple, if not destroy, arrangements fraught with indescribable benefit, for no definable, certainly no adequate end — discord is introduced, though it may divide between Meetings, near and dear friends, and even embitter the tenderest relations of life, and urged onwards with a blind impetuosity, as to results which nothing but

the most serious reasons — as a manifest departure from living faith, or our long cherished testimonies could justify.

Instead of Friends and Meetings striving to encourage each other in the faithful maintenance of our religious principles before others, the grand aim with some now appears to be, the detection of things in which some dissonance of view may be discovered, to the sad overlooking of that "charity which hopeth all things," and the weakening of the Society in that testimony to the love, spiritualism, purity and simplicity of the Gospel which we fully believe has been given us, as a people, to bear.

In thus briefly pointing your attention to the trials which have been permitted to overtake us, it is not our object to introduce you into controversy, or awaken any feelings of irritation towards those through whom the offence has come; but on the contrary, we would guard you against it. Controversy, which so generally seeks the weak side, and not unfrequently attacks character, is dangerous to all, and especially the young. We rarely dwell upon or expose the errors of others, without a secret feeling of self-satisfaction, which draws from that which should be the constant concern of life — a close attention to our own faults — its results upon individuals and bodies, in the evidences of self-exaltation and a judging spirit but too often afforded, ought to warn us against entering upon it, or proceeding one step beyond the clear requirements of Truth; whilst as to the feelings which ought to persuade our hearts towards our erring friends, a deep sorrow for them in their bewildered state, and a prayerful desire for their restoration should ever predominate. Some of them, we doubt not, have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge; that knowledge, which in a humble abiding before Him, we believe He will continue to dispense to the seeking soul. Not entangled in the in the right hand or the left hand errors which have sorrowfully, at different times, found place and produced schisms in our Society, let us strive to keep a straight forward course, walking in the footsteps of our forefathers, as they followed the Lamb.

"We have the friends, that it is incumbent upon us, in much tenderness to spread before you a caution, in relation to the multiplied publications that are now very freely circulated within our limits and elsewhere, "reflecting darkly on Friends," and to revive the admonition of our Discipline, "that no such book, pamphlet or paper, be written, printed, published or privately handed about, by any under our profession." Various publications to which we refer, containing statements, which are not supported by facts, and into which the names of many worthy Friends are very freely introduced, or they in some way designated, and unjustly represented, may surely be regarded in the fullest sense pernicious; and as such, they should not be circulated or read.

It has been deeply affecting to us to learn, that under the influence of that delusive spirit to which we have referred, some have accepted the contents of such books, and received written or verbal statements from interested parties, as of almost equal validity with those contained in publications issued by regularly constituted bodies of valuable Friends, a description of documents, to which implicit credence has heretofore been given — and under such false impressions, have emitted and urged individual sentiments, against the solid judgment of the body — proceedings totally at variance with that into which the Truth leads.

The advice contained in an ancient Epistle, put forth by George Whitehead, Stephen Crisp and others, in the year 1666, is applicable to our day, and we urge it upon your serious attention. "If any are who are out of the unity with the body of Friends, print or cause to be printed or published in writing any thing which is not of service for the Truth, but tends to the reproach and scandal of faithful Friends, or to begit or uphold division or faction; then we do warn and charge all Friends that love the Truth, as they desire it may prosper and be kept clear, to beware and take heed of having any hand in printing, publishing or spreading such books or writings."

Beloved Brethren and Sisters — We commend to the Lord for safety — we fervently crave your preservation, and that you may witness a unity one with another, in the true fellowship and love of the gospel. In this Meeting various epistles from our Friends of other Yearly Meetings have been read to our comfort, and we have felt it to be a peculiar blessing and cause for thankfulness that we have been favoured with the company of devout concerned and qualified Friends from different Yearly Meetings, whose sympathy, unity, and advice, have been truly acceptable, comforting and instructive to us. This Meeting has been closely united, and we have been enabled to travel together in sweet and harmonious labour for the cause of Truth.

We are now about to separate, under a humbling sense of the love and mercy of the adorable Head, that He has condescended to be near, and as we trust, to direct us in the steps that we should take in his militant Church. He bid you affectionately farewell. May you be favoured to possess your souls in patience, enduring all things for Christ's sake — that through watching unto prayer, you may be enabled to perceive the subtle snares of the adversary of souls, and in the silence of all flesh, distinguish between the voice of the true Shepherd and that of the stranger. To this unsleeping Shepherd we commend you. He still careth for the flock, and as they hearken to and obey His voice, will, blessed be his name, keep them in His safe enclosure, now & forever. — Amen.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, for New England, held by adjournments from the 16th to the 23rd inclusive, of the sixth month 1845.

Abraham Shattuck, Jr., Clerk.

Fannah Gould, Jr., Clerk.

5th London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

It is from a fresh sense of the expansive influence of that Love, which extends through the various branches of the Christian Church, proceeding alone from its holy Head, and uniting together the members thereof, however widely separated, that we again address you, and acknowledge the receipt of your truly acceptable epistle of last year. May the Lord be with you, and keep you in the hollow of His hand. This will be the experience of those, who through watchfulness unto prayer, abide in their tents, and receive day by day that portion of heavenly bread which sustains and strengthens the mind under every allotment in which it may be placed.

Truly the Lord is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart. His ways are not as our ways - He seeth not as man seeth, He looketh on the heart - If our hearts condemn us not, where have we confidence towards God.

Through all the changes, the vicissitudes and the trials of time - the Name of the Lord is found to be a strong tower, the righteous run into it and are safe - let us be encouraged, dear sisters to seek refuge here - to have our hope and our expectations centered and stayed upon the Rock of Ages, Christ Jesus, the chief corner stone, elect and precious - then shall we individually know that true settlement of mind, wherein we experimentally realize, that "none of these things move me." being grounded and established upon the everlasting foundation, which continues to have "His seat. the Lord knoweth them that are His." Though tribulation may attend our paths - and many may have deeply to partake of the cup of suffering which yet remaineth, may we in patience possess our souls - and not attempt in our own way, or in our own time to seek a release therefrom, but keep in stillness and abasedness of self, in reverently waiting upon Him, who will give you strength to endure, and wisdom to direct our course. Thus dear friends, will be witnessed the fulfilment of that ancient promise - "My people shall dwell in a quiet habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."

Unto you dear children, the younger part of the family,

and to those farther advanced on their journey in life, the word of exhortation sweetly extends—"Offer unto the Lord the first fruits of all your increase, so shall your barns be filled with plenty, and your presses burst out with new wine. Nothing will be required at your hands but that which you will be enabled to perform, nothing will be taken from you that will be worth retaining—Let the beloved of souls take possession of your hearts—permit their government to rest upon His shoulders, and He by his Spirit, will truly make the wilderness, and the solitary places therein to be glad, and the desert will rejoice and blossom as the rose.

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and although we have had much to feel on account of a spirit of misrule and disaffection which tends to divide in Jacob, and to scatter in Israel, yet as we have endeavoured through the assistance of divine grace, patiently to wait, and quietly to trust—the stone has been at seasons a little removed, and access to the exhaustless Fountain of living water, mercifully granted, whereby our spirits have been permitted to be refreshed together—and an evidence renewedly received "that the righteous shall hold on their way, and they that have clean hands, shall grow stronger and stronger."

We have been favoured with the truly acceptable company of our dear friends John Pease and Isabel Casson from your land—whose gospel labours have been strengthening and comforting to us.

May grace, mercy and peace from God our Father be multiplied, and abound among us—uniting our spirits together in the fellowship of the gospel of His dear Son.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.
Dear Sisters

Being again permitted to meet in this our Annual Assembly, many of our minds have been brought to feel that unto the great Head of the Church we are to look for all our fresh supplies, whether it be to approach Him in solemn wor-

ship, as in conducting the weighty concerns of the Church - we believe that the acknowledgment of many hearts has been "Of ourselves we can do nothing that will redound to the advancement of truth and righteousness in the earth, or promote the peace of our own minds: and under an humbling sense of our weakness and inability many hearts have been lifted up in mental prayer that we might know our abiding to be in the position of Rocks, wherein is safety."

We have been at this time confirmed in the belief, that all who are led by the Holy Spirit, and are brought into the one feeling, will adopt the language - "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men." And that all amongst you and us, who desire the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders, may dwell deep, and in exercise of travail of spirit be willing to remain all the appointed time, working as before the porch and the altar saying - "Spare thy people O Lord, and give not their heritage to reproach," has been the fervent desire of many concerned at this time. And from the evidence, mercifully granted, from sitting to sitting we humbly trust we have been owned by the Father of Israel, in that he hath favoured us with his sustaining presence; which has not only been experienced by our aged and middle aged sisters in the Church, but the sweet influences thereof have extended to our beloved youth as evinced by their solid deportment, and the expression of interest and weight resting upon their countenances - many of this interesting class are now in attendance with us.

Although we have been afresh brought under trial, and the exercise of our faith and patience, yet we are comforted in the belief that the greater part of those professing with us are not only bound to the law, and the testimonies given us to maintain, but also to acknowledge all the Christian principles and doctrines held forth and supported by our worthy predecessors in the Faith to be founded upon the revelation of Jesus Christ, the Rock of Ages giving this comforting assurance - "The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His."

We have received your Epistle of last week month, which with those from all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent and one from London, have been read to our comfort and edification.

In the deliberations that have occupied us at this time, much unity and harmony has been experienced amongst us.

We have had the acceptable company of John Pease, and Isabel Casson from England, with number of friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, whose sympathy and gospel labours have been truly encouraging and strengthening to us.

With the salutation of love we bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
Hannah Gould, junr. Clerk.

To the New York Yearly Meeting of Friends.
Dear friends,

It is under an humbling sense of the mercy of God, through Christ Jesus our Lord, that we have been permitted to meet together in this annual assembly and to partake of the cup of suffering, meted out to us, in which we have been strengthened to endure the conflict in the resurrection of our wills to the divine will. We reverently believe that the overshadowing of the Ancient of days has been experienced by the living members of the Church militant, and although deep discouragement and heaviness of spirit have been our portion, the precious evidence has not been withheld, that His loving kindness and tender mercy is still extended to us as a people, and His power made manifest in turning the battle to the gate.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and many of our beloved young friends are in attendance; who have given evidence of their deep interest in the welfare of our religious Society, holding forth encouragement to the burden-bearing, that even those who are under the preparing hand, who, as they are faithful to their divine Master will stand as valiants in their day for the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth.

Although the enemy of all righteousness has been suf-

freed by his specious transformations to betray the feet of the unwatchful, yet we are thankful in believing that the evidence has been given that the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His. May we in true humility and selfabasement endure the cross—manifest our love and allegiance to our divine Master, and by love one unto another prove our discipleship to Him, who is, indeed, the Lord our righteousness.

Your truly acceptable Epistle has been read to the encouragement of many minds, confirming us in the belief that we are owed by the head of the Church in this our sisterly intercourse. May we dear friends, maintain the warfare in faith and patience, hold fast that, whereunto we have attained in the truth, and in watchfulness of prayer & experience, preservation from the snares of an unwearied adversary.

The state of Society has been feelingly entered into, the want of faithfulness apparent in the attendance of our religious Meetings, has introduced many minds into sick exercises, from a sense that great loss is sustained thereby, and minds have been encouraged to a more lively concern in the discharge of this prominent duty, bearing in mind the charge, "not to forsake the assembling themselves together, as the manner of some is."

We have had the acceptable company of our beloved friends John Pease and Isabel Casson from Great Britain, with several dear friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings whose gospel labours have been comforting and instructive to us.

In a measure of that love which is the badge of discipleship we salute you, and bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould jun^r Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

It is believed friends in much society of spirit that we attempt to address you and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable chest of y^e month last - humbly interceding Him, who alone can clothe our minds with that love which binds into that oneness of spirit which is the declaration of the Apostle, "as face answering to face in a glass."

In attending this our Annual Assembly, the minds of the livingly exercised travellers Lionward have been clad with mourning, the signs of the times portending a "dividing in Israel and scattering in Israel" - but through the adorable condescension of the great Head of the Church, in this season of deep proving, we humbly trust a "spirit of judgment has been given to those who sit in judgment, and strength to those who have endeavoured to turn the battle to the gate." And although we have to acknowledge that a small portion of our Society has seceded from us, yet we believe the spirit of patience and ~~tenacious~~ forbearance has been the weapon by which we have maintained our cause: and though we have been sorrowfully affected in beholding the mother separating herself from the daughter and the daughter from the mother, yet in this season of conflict we believe many visited minds have been recently engaged in the profitable exercise of searching, and trying their ways, and turning unto the Lord, adopting the prayer of the Psalmist - "Let my heart be sound in thy statutes."

We have also gratefully to acknowledge that the Shepherd of Israel has been pleased in tender mercy again to revisit, and overshadow our assembly with the consolations of His Spirit, thereby inciting our endeavours to walk before Him in that humility and faith, that fear and love which is acceptable in His divine sight.

A large portion of this assembly has been composed of those in the middle walks of life, and of the beloved youth, whose countenances have evinced not only an interest, but an exercise of mind to be guided in the right way: may this class both with you and us, be increasingly engaged to put on the whole armour of righteousness, that the walls of

our Jerusalem may be rebuilt, and her waste places repaired, that the cause of truth and righteousness may prevail and prosper: firmly believing that as we are thus engaged the Lord our God will remember us for good, and bless our feeble efforts.

Our beloved friends John Pease and Isabel Casson from England, with a number of dear friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings have been in attendance with us, whose gospel labours have been strengthening and helpful to us in this deeply proving season.

In much sisterly regard we bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting—

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting & Friends,
Beloved friends,

In an humbling sense of our unworthiness and inability of ourselves rightly to address you at this time, we have earnestly craved to be endowed with wisdom from Him, who giveth liberally and upbraideth not; feeling in our hearts a palpitation of love towards you.

Your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last has been read to our satisfaction. Whilst we have had to mourn on account of the deficiencies apparent amongst us; we have renewed evidence that the everlasting arm hath been underneath. And though deep trials have been our portion, a part of our members having withdrawn from us, and set up a separate meeting, which has been painful to those who have no greater joy than that of the prosperity of truth, and to witness the prevalence of gospel love and true Christian harmony. We have, we trust, been enabled in a measure of Christian forbearance to possess our souls in patience; realizing that the Holy One still speaketh in righteousness, mighty to save; so that we have to commemorate his goodness and loving kindness, still extended towards us as a people. And we believe that many of the dear youth have been led into exercise and wisdom by they have been enabled to distinguish between that

which gathered round that which gathereth to the feet of Jesus, and the language of encouragement hath been extended to them, with desires that they may submit themselves unwaveringly to the will of Christ. And we entreat our friends of every class, that in this day of deep conflict they may unite, not on the issue of righteousness, that we through watchfulness unto prayer may be increasingly brought into that sweet union and communion which is the fellowship of the saints.

We would mingle in sympathy with the mourner in Zion and the heavy hearted in Jerusalem, and the language extended to them is - Trust in Him who divided the waters, make even the flinty rock that the waters might gush out. May He send help from this holy sanctuary and strength out of Zion. And dear sisters, let us not be dismayed, but ever bear in mind that those who stood before the throne had come out of great tribulation, and ~~that~~ their robes washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb.

We have at this time received an Epistle from Virginia Yearly Meeting now embodied with you, which was acceptable and encouraging to many minds - convincing that tho' reduced in number, and somewhat diminished in strength the pavour of life was not lost.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, many in the middle and younger walks of life being in attendance. And we have been strengthened and encouraged by the company and gospel labours of our beloved friends John Pease and Isabel Casson from England, with a number from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Sam^l Clark.

2nd North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
 Dear Sisters,

The sympathy and feeling expressions of sisterly regard in your truly acceptable epistle of 11th month last, has been an evidence of our Heavenly Father's wondrous love and

tender mercy in which we feel united with you as fellow travellers towards; greatly desiring that we may, under the removed quickening influence of the Spirit of God, be favored to preserve this our epistolary intercourse in a measure of the "savour of life unto life," and experience our minds baptized into silent waiting on Him who is head of the Church, that we may feel a qualification to address you in that language which speaketh to the understanding; sensibly feeling that, however well arranged our words may be, unless they have the precious witness of truth, they are little more than sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

In attending this our Yearly Meeting, our minds have been led sorrowfully to adopt the language of the Psalmist of Israel, when he said, "Thou hast shown thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment." Our minds have been sorrowfully affected in beholding the desolating effects of a spirit of insubordination and misrule whereby a small number of our members have separated themselves from the body, thus producing a schism, and causing not only the livingly exercised amongst us, but tender feeling minds, mentally to exclaim that it has been a cup mingled with sorrow and affliction — may this deeply proving season be held in remembrance, and under a humiliating sense that, "it is of the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not."

We have dear sisters gratefully to acknowledge, that, since the separation, our meetings have been owned by Him who condescends to preside over all rightly gathered assemblies, and who has "given a banner to them that fear Him that it may be displayed because of the truth."

The interesting account contained in your epistle of the condition of your Boarding School has been animating, and we hope that you will be enabled to sustain the Institution to the great improvement of the rising generation, and to the honour of the ever blessed Truth.

We unite with you in the feeling of sympathy and compassion for the suffering and oppressed in every clime; and may the Lord, in his tender mercy, be pleased to regard Ethiopia in the stretching forth of her hand, and hasten the time of ~~the~~ deliverance of her children from bondage.

We have been favoured with the company and helpful labours of our beloved friends John Dease and Isabel Casson from England and other dear friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, which has been strength and encouragement to us in this day of trial.

With the salutation of distaff regard, we remain your friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Junr. Clerk.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
 Dear Sisters,

Through the condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father, we are again permitted to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and altho' under a feeling sense that weakness is ours we have cause gratefully to acknowledge the ~~He~~ with power to the faint, and to those who have no might ~~He~~ increase strength. Very precious hath been the evidence that the name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and are safe - may the upright in heart be encouraged to lift up their heads in hope, though they may have to endure affliction, often dwelling in a very low place, yet as they are engaged to possess their souls in patience, waiting in retirement upon the Lord, they will experience Him in his own time to arise for their help, enabling them to realize that ~~He~~ still continues to bless the provision of Zion, and satisfy her poor with bread. May we dear friends be encouraged to keep firm hold on the unfailing Rock of ages. It never has, nor ever will fail to support all those whose feet are established thereon - How comforting is the assurance

our Holy Redeemer having loved his own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end; great is the blessedness of a hope in Him - though in this world we may have tribulation, the consoling language remains to be - "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Let us not shrink from suffering, remembering that they who suffer with him will in due time reign with Him - these realities with the faithful in all generations the scripture promise verified. I will allure thee into the wilderness - there will I speak comfortably unto thee, I will give thee thy vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor, for a door of hope?

The company of our beloved friends who are with us from a foreign land - together with others from neighbouring Yearly Meetings has been a comfort and strength to us at this time, and under a fresh sense of the extendings of Heavenly goodness we can feelingly adopt the language what shall we render unto the O Lord, for all thy benefits.

We have with sorrow to inform you that a small number of our members have withdrawn from us and set up a separate Meeting - thus are we prepared feelingly to the language of your Epistle that while we mourn the departure of some who have gone out from us we feel cause for humble thankfulness that a large number is preserved, who we are comforted in believing are livingly engaged to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called, labouring in sincerity of heart to maintain the doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society as transmitted to us by our worthy predecessors in the truth. May we dear friends be unitedly engaged to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing, looking steadfastly unto Him who remaineth to be the Healer of breaches, and the restorer of paths to walk in.

You were affectionately remembered by us at our Yearly Meeting last year, and an epistle prepared &

forwarded - which it appears by yours you did not receive - we regret this - as we desire to continue our epistolary intercourse, believing that under the influence of the Holy Spirit it tends to strengthen the bond of union between us.

With the salutation of love we bid you farewell.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting)

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

Narrative of Facts and Circumstances. That have tended to produce a secession from The Society of Friends in New England (Yearly Meeting).

It is for the sake of truth, and for the information of those who from want of a true understanding of the case, are liable to be deceived by unfounded and improper representations, that we, bel^l called upon to set forth the following account of the secession from Friends, that has taken place within this Yearly Meeting.

In order to give a faithful history, it seems necessary to go back several years, and advert to some circumstances that then transpired; and unpleasant as is the duty, we are subjected to the painful necessity of exposing the course of an individual, formerly ~~as~~ a minister in unity with us, who has been prominent as a leader in this schism, and, for the same reason, we are induced to state various other causes and circumstances that have tended to produce the secession which we are about to describe.

In the year 1832, John Wilbur was liberated to make a religious visit to Friends in Great Britain and Ireland. While absent on this visit, he wrote a series of letters relating to the doctrines and practices of the Society of Friends, which were published, having evidently been written for that purpose, without being submitted to the inspection of any body of the Society authorized to examine such publications; a procedure which he well knew was viewed by our Yearly Meeting as always improper, and contrary to the express provisions of our Discipline. As this

publication was made but a short time before his return home, no action was taken in the case until he arrived, where the Meeting for Sufferings, feeling that a dangerous precedent had been set by a Minister, and former member of their body, thought some explanation was called for from him; and they named a Committee of three Friends to have an interview with him on the subject, but that there might be no unnecessary exposure, no minute was made in the case. This Committee sought an interview with him, and laboured in tenderness and love to convince him of the impropriety of departing from the Discipline of his own Yearly Meeting, while travelling as a Minister with the requisite certificate of that Meeting, as well as the hurtful tendency in an abstract point of view, of encouraging publications on doctrinal subjects, without the previous investigation and approbation of some authorized body of the Society. But so far from giving any satisfaction to this Committee, he manifested a disposition to justify himself, and to call in question the correctness of the procedure of the Meeting for Sufferings in the case. After considerable delay and much ineffectual labour, as the publication had received but little circulation in this country, and as a desire was felt to exercise all tenderness and forbearance towards him, the subject was suffered to rest, so far as any official action was concerned. But we have reason to believe that this honest concern, and faithful labour in the case by his brethren, was not received by him in the spirit in which it was offered. A want of that charity, unity and love, which so become brethren, was painfully observable in his conduct towards many Friends, so as to cause uneasiness on his account, and to induce individual labour to be extended to him.

It was under the profession of supporting sound doctrine, that he pursued a course, and indulged in a spirit of de-traction, tending to injure the religious character of several Friends in our and other Yearly Meetings, representing them as unsound in doctrine, and holding views inconsistent with those then held by the Society of Friends. Letters were written

and circulated by him having this end in view, and intended to raise the standing of individuals, and to obstruct their religious labours.

In the autumn of 1837, John Wilbur made a religious visit within the limits of New York County, during the course of this journey he continued to indulge in the same spirit, both in speaking and writing, until he produced much exercise with well concerned Friends. — Ministers Elders, and others, among whom he was travelling, and some others, treated with him on this account. In one of the conferences held with him on this subject, he used the following language: "I consider the course I am taking in respect to the Friend from England and his writings, to be in the line of my religious duty, and this I hold to be more binding upon me than any rules of Discipline."

After his return home from this visit, he continued to manifest the same unwarrantable course, producing much exercise in the minds of those friends to whom knowledge of it came, and who felt the importance both of supporting our own Discipline and of treating other Friends Meetings with that Christian confidence and regard to which as bodies in unity with us they were justly entitled, and tender labour was bestowed upon him by different individuals, to induce him to desist from his improper proceedings.

In the 4th month, 1837, a minister and aged elder sought an interview with him, the progress and result of which are thus described by the latter: "The manner in which John Wilbur had spoken of a Friend, who was about to visit this country as a Minister, having the approbation of his friends at home, and by them liberated in the usual way, gave some of his friends concern on his account, and after the Friend arrived in this country, John Wilbur being then out on a religious visit to Friends in some part of the State of New York, continued to manifest his aversion to the Friend and his writings as I had understood. In the course of the following summer, I believe in the 7th month, a friend from New Hampshire called on me to accompany him on a religious visit to the West."

many of friends in South Kingston Monthly Meeting, & have since
 composing, and after having dined at John Richards, we asked
 for a personal and direct interview with him, this was
 readily granted, and the subject of the good order of the Society
 in reference to the manner in which Ministers travelling
 abroad on religious concerns, in the authority of the Church,
 ought to treat each other, was brought into view, and contrasted
 with the course he had pursued while out on a religious
 visit to Friends in the State of New York. We endeavored
 to convince him that his manner of treating the friend above
 referred to, both in speaking and writing respecting him,
 was not only contrary to the express disciplinary injunction
 of doing to others as we would that others should do unto
 us, but was likewise contrary to the injunction of our own
 Discipline: He appeared disposed, and frequently repeatedly
 attempted to shield himself by alleging that the writings of
 that friend were unsound. He as often unhesitatingly
 assured him, that our concern to have an interview
 with him had no reference to writings, but that our object
 was to persuade him to refrain from pursuing such a course.

The friend was here recommended to us by a Meeting with
 which we were in unity; should he advance any thing un-
 sound in public or in private, or otherwise conduct himself
 disorderly, he would become a subject, like all other ministers
 travelling among us, over whom the care of the Society ought
 to be extended.

The conversation was open and free, and he was re-
 peatedly enjoined not to blind our concern for him as having
 any connection with, or reference to the writings of the friend.
 And we again assured him that it was a concern growing
 out of, as we believed, a clear conviction in our own minds
 that his past course in reference to that individual, would
 ultimately, if persisted in, be productive of serious loss to
 himself and injury to the Society.

It may not be improper here to remark, that I did not
 converse with an individual member of South Kingston
 Monthly Meeting, on the subject, that did not manifest
 regret at the manner J. W. was conducting towards the

Minister referred to."

In the following winter, 1839-40, John Wilbur having obtained a certificate from South Kingston Monthly Meeting, to enable him to visit some of the meetings in this Yearly Meeting, a committee then under appointment from the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, were tenderly concerned on his account, and a few of their number were deputed to have an interview with him previous to his leaving home to enter on this engagement; but failing to effect their object, they addressed to him the following communication, through one of their members. The letter is dated Nov. 6, 1840.

"Having written thee a few days ago, and forwarded it by mail, at the request of some of the Select Yearly Meeting's committee, proposing an interview with thee at our house on the fifth inst., the few friends referred to came at the time appointed, but as thou wast not present, — which we readily admitted may have been occasioned by reasonable causes — it was proposed that I should again address a few lines to thee, pointing out in some measure the subjects of concern that induced the Committee of the Select Yearly Meeting, assembled from various parts of the Yearly Meeting — twelve in number — to seek an interview with thyself, as proposed, and named a few friends for this purpose. Such an interview was more desirable than correspondence, and would probably have been further attempted, but from uncertainty of thy being at home, and from the expectations of those friends that were here, of leaving their several homes to-day or tomorrow, to go in a different direction.

"I feel it to be a very delicate situation to be placed in, that of being the instrument to convey the religious impressions and views of the Committee; and probably I should at once have excused myself, had not the committee named me as one of those who were requested to have such interview. If I should be found incorrect, my apology to them and thyself must be, that I was not present with the committee in their deliberations, and have not rightly apprehended their concern; but as I understand the subject, the Committee is taking into consideration the state of the Ministers and Elders of this Yearly Meeting, and the duties that devolve upon them as members of the Select Yearly Meeting's Committee, became tenderly regarded of thyself, knowing that thou hadst been liberated by this Yearly Meeting for the purpose of visiting the Quarterly

Meetings, and that thou hadst commenced the fulfilment of thy
project. and trusting that thou wilt kindly receive the man-
ifestations of their tender regard for thy welfare and that of the
Church, in bringing into view in this way, a portion of ancient
Discipline to which we doubt not thy own judgment and religious
experience will readily assent - 'That Ministers be very tender
of one anothers reputation, neither giving ear to, nor spreading
reports, tending to raise in the minds of others a lessening or
disesteem of any of the brotherhood. That in circumspiced walk-
ing in all business of life and conversation, they may become
living examples of the purity and excellence of the advice they
recommend.' This advice was intended, no doubt, for all prac-
tically to regard, and it appears to have specially in view those
travelling in the work of the ministry, and I understand the
committee felt themselves constrained in Christian love to bring
this subject before thy view at the present time, from a persuasion
that in time past there had not been that circumspection
and care on thy part, which are the fruits of that charity that
is the Christians ornament, and the bond of our religious com-
munion; in that as they believe thou hast indulged thyself
and countenanced in others, both in conversation and writing,
the saying of many things tending to close up the way in
minds to the reception of the labours of one who like thyself
apprehends that he has a religious duty to discharge, and
in the order of Society is endeavouring to accomplish this object.

and I am requested to add as the united concern of the Com-
mittee, and as their advice, that if thou shouldst pursue thy
project of visiting the Quarterly Meetings, that for thy con-
servation and the harmony and good order of Society, thou
wilt be careful to refrain from introducing the subject to any
with whom thou mayst associate, and wilt not open the way
for others to introduce it. The Committee likewise recommend
thou committing to take with thee any of thy correspondence, either
written or printed, relating to the individuals alluded to. and
the Committee were also united in prospect that thou wouldst
not be travelling in unity of the body, so essential to the preser-
vation of Christian fellowship, until thou mayst give evidence
of thy intention to regard this advice. I was likewise requested

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to bring into thy view in a tender and affectionate manner, the suspension for the present of thy visit, if it may be done consistently with the more important duties of religious duty.

I have thus endeavored to discharge the duties assigned me according to my understanding, although I am aware of its being far short of producing that mutual interest which a personal interview would have produced, yet I trust thou wilt give the subject referred to, due place in thy mind, and justly appreciate the interest manifested by the Committee for thy welfare and that of the Church."

Notwithstanding the counsel thus offered him, he proceeded on his journey; and from testimonies we have received, it appears that the advice thus feelingly given and intended for his own preservation, and the good of the Church, was disregarded by him.

In the 5th month, 1840, in consequence of deficiencies in the answers from subordinate meetings, and "under a concern for the cause of Truth," Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders appointed a Committee "to visit subordinate meetings and individuals as way may open for, and occasion may require, and to labour for the restoration and preservation of harmony amongst us.

The Committee thus appointed, obtained an early interview with John Holten, and stated to him the various causes of uneasiness on his account. He was reminded of his improper course in relation to divers friends of our own and other Yearly Meetings, whom he had represented as unsound in religious faith; and that ministers, Elders, and other friends were departing from the ancient views of our Society in relation to Baptism, the Supper, &c., producing in many instances a totally unfounded prejudice against those friends; that he had spoken of a division of the Yearly Meeting as being a probable result, soon to take place. He did not deny these charges, but plead in justification the abridges unsoundness of certain writings of a Friend traveling as a Minister amongst us, and offered a paper purporting to contain extracts from these writings, to prove his position. This is the Committee entirely rejected, as not being the

matter at issue; doctrines not being, at all in question; but the support of Christian order and the Discipline of the Yearly Meeting. When inquired of if he knew of an individual amongst us who had imbibed unsound principles, he objected to the question; and when pressed for an answer, in consequence of his having circulated such statements, he absolutely declined to give it. His improper course, and the injurious effects resulting therefrom to various friends, and above all to the precious cause of Truth, were fully unfolded to him; but after a full conference, in which much brotherly admonition and advice were bestowed upon him, the opportunity terminated without the Committee's receiving any satisfaction from him.

In the 15th month of this year, (1840) a Minister from a distant Yearly Meeting travelling amongst us on a religious visit, with his companion, put up at John Wilbur's house in the course of their journey, soon after their arrival within our limits. To these friends John Wilbur spoke very freely of many members of Society among whom they would probably pass in pursuance of their prospect of religious service, and did not hesitate to name various individuals, ministers and others, designating them as unsound, and warning these friends not to go to their houses or to use freedom with them. Before leaving this part of the country, and soon after the occurrence of the Quarterly Meeting, these friends believed it to be their religious duty to call together the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee and to inform them of the communications made to them by John Wilbur, in order that proper care might be extended to him, as his observations about individuals had been very burdensome to them and had much tended to embarrass them in their religious service. A letter from the companion of the friend above alluded to, written after his return home, to a member of the Committee, will serve to show something of the nature of these communications. We make from it the following extracts:

When we first arrived within the limits of your Yearly Meeting, we fell in with John Wilbur, who kindly entertained us at his house, excepting that we found him, as both of us thought, much soured against many friends. He spoke

truly of the unsoundness of a Minister from England, who was at that time engaged in a religious visit to Friends in America, exhibiting a long list of written charges against him. He also told us he was, and would be supported by your Yearly Meeting, on account of a like unsoundness in many of its members.

It had been our prospect, on entering the limits of your Yearly Meeting, to proceed early to Providence, though nothing definite had been settled upon; but John Milbur proposed a different route, in which he said we could attend more Quarterly Meetings, and that he would accompany us as far as Newport. Wishing to attend as many Quarterly Meetings as we could, and being dependent upon our friends for conveyance, we accepted his proposal, and were thus thrown into his company and the company of such friends as he introduced us to, for a considerable time; and hence arose as thou knowest, (and not without some grounds,) a fear on our account in the minds of many of our dear friends in your Yearly Meeting, which led me, and I think I may say us, on thy kindly letting us know that such was the case, to believe it necessary for the opening of our way, if for no other cause, to let Friends know that we did not believe with John Milbur, on many points, and that we were not insensible of the spirit which he indulged towards Friends. This, together with the fact of our knowledge of the danger to which he was exposing both himself and others, may account for our divulging to thee and other friends of a Committee of your Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, sentiments expressed by him.

In addition to what has been already related, he spoke of a controlling influence in your Yearly Meeting that was not a religious, but a moneyed one, and that if we were not on our guard, they would buy us — that they had already got T. and E. K. from England. On our inquiring about two Ministers, who we said were accounted sound friends, and were much beloved when in our country, he said, as nearly as I now remember, that they were once such, low, humble-minded friends, but that now they had got to Providence, and were bought over to the same influence. We

also said something about their agent parent being distressed about them. We told us too of a friend of New Hampshire being brought over, telling the particulars, but I cannot now remember them. He spoke freely and unreservedly of a division in your Yearly Meeting, which he believed must and would take place. I remember that on my saying that I did not think it would, he remarked that I was as one of Job's comforters, for you could not live as you were. He appeared to me to be looking to no other alternative than a division for an improvement in your condition. I have but little doubt that to nearly all the foregoing facts, there are many friends in your parts that could, if they would, bear ample testimony."

About three weeks after the interview of the said Yearly Meeting's Committee with John Wilbur, a member of the Committee received a long and in some points a very objectionable letter from him, in which he implies that the Committee were treating with him for supporting sound doctrines, and that they themselves were upholding doctrines which were unsound. The premises taken in this letter, and the conclusions deduced therefrom, were objected to by every member of the Committee present at the interview as uncandid and unjust, and in divers respects untrue in points of fact. This letter now became an additional cause of concern to the Committee, and during the time of our Yearly Meeting in the 6th mo. following, several long opportunities of conference were had with him, without his rendering Friends any satisfaction. In the 8th mo. 1840 another interview took place, which was extended to great length, most members of the Committee being present, and all united in pertinence, who imparted much affectionate advice, without inducing any favorable result, there being a determination, manifested by him to defend himself in his course, and to condemn all those who questioned its correctness; and the interview closed, leaving an impression of regret and sorrow on the minds of the Committee. In the 11th mo. he was again unwearingly labored with by the Committee at large, and at the conclusion of the interview, a few friends were requested again to see him, who accordingly visited him in the 12th mo. and had an opportunity with

him in presence of the select members of his particular Meeting, but he continued to justify himself and to condemn Friends.

In the 2nd mo. following, the Committee again attempted unwarily to produce a change in his mind, and to induce him to give Friends satisfaction. The labors of the Committee appointed by the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers & Elders failing to produce the desired result, they believed it right to submit the case to a Committee then under appointment by the Yearly Meeting, for purposes specified in the following minute of their appointment:

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island in the 6th mo, 1840, the joint Committee of men and women Friends appointed to visit subordinate meetings and individuals as way might open for, and circumstances in their judgment require, made report of their attention to that service during the past year, and proposed the appointment of a similar Committee at the present time, which being deliberately considered was united with, and at a subsequent Meeting sitting, the following friends being named for that service, were appointed to extend a general care on its behalf, for the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the preservation of love and unity among our members; and in that ability, which may be afforded them, to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom; and they are requested to report to this meeting next year."

Accordingly a number of this Committee had an interview with John Welbur, at East Greenwich, the 4th of 5th mo. 1841.

They were fully united in sentiment as to the impropriety of the course pursued by him in the several particulars brought to their notice by the Committee of the Select Quarterly Meeting, and they labored faithfully and affectionately to convince him of his errors, and to induce to give Friends satisfaction. The interview was long continued, and was renewed again next morning without producing any sensible change in his feelings, or at all reconciling him to Friends.

He contended for the propriety of his course on account of

the alleged unsoundness of some of the writings of the Minister from England; while the Committee wholly denied this to be the point at issue; these printed writings not being at all involved in the case; but the simple question being whether John Wilbur could with impunity violate our Discipline and the Christian order of our religious Society. They stated, among other things, that the friend alluded to, would, while among us, as one of our own members, be held answerable to, and be judged by our Discipline, for whatever he should advance.

That any action attempted by us, for acts committed, or sentiments advanced, prior to the date of his certificates, would be a virtual transgression of that safe rule of our Society at large, which considers members every where, for their conduct while at home, amenable to the Meetings to which they belong.

This rule appears by the general consent of all the Yearly Meetings to have been heretofore carefully respected. It necessarily supposes but one and the same qualification throughout the Society for the exercise of Christian care over its members; any consequently any act which should reach within the limits of another Yearly Meeting, intended to arraign one or more of its members for any alleged error of an earlier date than of the certificates they may bring, must be viewed as a breach of the established order amongst us. Such a course would be to judge not of the individual only, but of the Meetings that granted the certificates. If this order should be departed from, no one, in a case of real or imputed error, could know the extent of his liability, or the conclusion of the Society, till judged, severally, by every branch of our Church.

During this interview, he stated that in his letter to a member of the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee, he did not intend to charge the Committee with holding unsound doctrines; and being inquired of whether he was willing to say further that he did not intend to make any reflections upon them injurious to their standing in Society, he requested them to commit to paper what they wished him to state.

The Committee adjourned to meet again on the following

morning, and in the recess the subscribed paper was prepared, with a hope that John Wilbur might be convinced of the propriety of signing it, so as to remove as far as he could now do it, the unjust charges and insinuations brought by him against the Select Quarterly Meetings Committee.

"Feelings of uneasiness having rested on the minds of the Select Quarterly Meetings Committee, in consequence of some expressions contained in a letter written by me to one of their members under date of 5th month 30th, 1840, from an apprehension that I meant therein to charge the members of that Committee with holding unsound doctrines, I feel willing to relieve their minds from such apprehension by now saying that it was not my intention to be so understood. And further I am willing to say that I regret that any thing was so unguardedly expressed in said letter as to bear the construction that I meant to reflect upon said Committee to the prejudice of their standing in Society. And having in said letter attributed to that Committee expressions that they do not own as having been made by them, I am willing to believe that I misunderstood the sentiments they meant to convey, and consequently to withdraw such charges."

On presenting this essay to him, although as the Committee thought it was so worded that he could hardly fail to receive it, especially as he proposed at the previous interview that a paper of this purport should be prepared, he declined to sign it, and the interview ended. On the 13th of 6th month, the Committee again met at New port, agreeably to their adjournment, twenty-seven members being present. A long conference was again held with him, resulting as heretofore. A few friends were separated, affectionately and earnestly, to labour with him, and the Committee adjourned to the 15th inst. At this adjourned meeting, John Wilbur was not present, and the friends who had by request an interview with him in the recess of the meetings, now reported that they had not been able to induce him to give friends satisfaction, and that they thought the case nearly hopeless.

The Yearly Meeting at this time being apprehensive that the existing state of things in the Society still demanded an extension of care from them, continued their committee, with a similar minute to that made

in their appointment last year. The Committee thus appointed, met on the 17th, and named four friends to have an interview with John Wilbur, and adjourned to the next morning. On the 18th, they met according to adjournment, 25 members being present.)

The original cause of concern on the part of Friends with him was again stated; his letter to a member of the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee was read, and also part of a letter from him dated 3rd mo. 11th, 1841, to a young friend in Dover Quarterly Meeting, calling upon certain friends to give him the state of things in that Quarter. John Wilbur being present, was called upon to reply to the case, if he saw fit; upon which he made some remarks but not to much extent, saying he wanted the charges in writing &c. During this meeting, much tender brotherly counsel and advice, by several of the Committee, was bestowed, in order for his restoration to the unity and harmony of friends. On leaving the Committee, he said he was willing they should proceed in the case in the manner they thought best, and remarked as he departed from the room, "Friends, so as you please, I have no concessions to make".

Subsequent to this time, the Yearly Meeting's Committee frequently met and solidly considered this sorrowful case, that had produced so much uneasiness, and in relation to which so much patient but ineffectual labour had been bestowed; and two of the Committee were encouraged to visit him again at his own house, and make another effort to convince him of his departures from right order and discipline, and to persuade him to return and be reconciled to Friends. They accordingly waited upon him and spent the night under his roof, and with great tenderness and brotherly regard, intreated him to turn from his course & make those concessions which the cause of truth requires. But to this he turned a deaf ear and refused to give any satisfaction.

At the close of South Kingston Monthly Meeting, in 11th month, 1841, John Wilbur called together the Select Members, and after stating some instances of what he considered encroachments on the privileges of Monthly Meetings and individuals, all of which had reference to his own case, he desired the Select Members might take a firm stand against the measures of the Quarterly Meeting. The proposition being disapproved, was abandoned.

The case was prepared and signed by the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and presented to South Kingston Monthly Meeting, Dec. 1841.

The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to extend a general care on its behalf, for the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the preservation of love and unity among our members, and in that ability that may be afforded us, to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require and way open for, under the direction of East Whiston, having had our minds introduced into deep concern and exercise on account of the course pursued for some time past by John Wilbur, a member of South Kingston Monthly Meeting, in the station of a Minister, believes that the time has now come for us to state some of the particulars which he has asserted, from the most sacred religious Society, in the disregard of our Christian Discipline.

He has circulated an anonymous pamphlet which impeached the character of our Society and in which some of its important doctrines, as exemplified in the religious engagements of some of its faithful ministers, are reproachfully laid up to view; and which purports to contain the proceedings of London Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, with the sentiments of divers friends therein named, when the subject of liberating a Minister to visit this country was before that meeting; the object of which, together with sundry letters which he has circulated, appears to be, to induce the belief that the concern did not receive the unity of the Meeting, and that the Clerk did not act in conformity with the true sense and judgment of the Meeting in signing the certificate, thus insinuating to invalidate both the proceedings and conclusions of a Meeting in unity with this Yearly Meeting, and whose certificate on behalf of the same friend was received and united with as entered on our records. And while the friend was in this country and engaged in the discharge of his apprehended religious duty, with full certificates of unity from the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings of which he is a member, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders of London, and which were duly presented, received and accredited in all the Yearly

Meetings in this country, except one which he did not attend; —
 and thus was he at liberty for religious service within their limits,
 in the full and acknowledged character of an approved
 and authenticated minister of the Society of Friends, — John
 Wilbur, for want as we believe of an humble abiding in the
 Truth, has circulated divers letters, one or more of which appears
 to have been written in England, and others originating with
 himself, addressed to different friends in this country, which were
 intended to show that the minister thus liberated for religious
 service, was not in unity with his friends at home, contrary
 to the long established order of our religious Society, and de-
 signed to close his way in the minds of Friends. And we also
 believe, for want of maintaining his integrity in that dependence
 upon the Holy Spirit, which would have preserved him in unity
 with Friends, he has indulged in a spirit of detraction, in speak-
 ing and writing, by which the religious character of divers friends
 in our own and other Yearly Meetings has been much misrepresented.
 Many friends were introduced into deep concern on his account,
 and several of them treated with him in tenderness and love
 in relation to it; but without producing any apparent change
 in his mind; and there having been a Committee appointed
 by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders,
 in the 5th mo. 1840, of which body he was a member, on account
 of existing deficiencies, as manifested by the answers to the
 queries, and under a concern for the cause of Truth; and they
 having been made acquainted with John Wilbur's course as
 last above stated, and he having made divers assertions
 tending to induce dissatisfaction among Friends, and with
 the proceedings of our Yearly Meeting in various particulars,
 and calculated to produce divisions therein, and also to dis-
 turb the unity of different Yearly Meetings, and to alienate the
 feelings of their members from each other, sought a opportu-
 nity with him, in which they endeavored to show him the
 effects of his proceedings, both upon himself and others;
 but he so far from receiving these labours of love in the spirit
 in which they were administered, soon after wrote a letter
 to one of the Committee, in which he made insinuations,
 and preferred charges against them which they deny in points

of fact). They nevertheless continued their care and labour, but his mind appearing closed against their advice, in the 5th mo. 1841, we at their request believed it our duty to extend care in his case. And it is with deep regret and sorrow, we have observed the effect his course of conduct has produced in lessening that regard for the wholesome restraints of the Discipline, and for the labour of faithful friends for the preservation of that good order, love and unity, which are essential to the peace and welfare of the body.

"We have had repeated opportunities with him in which we have laboured to convince him of his errors; but this desirable object not having been accomplished, and after having waited several months to afford him opportunity to make satisfaction for his deviations, and two of the Committee having unavailingly visited him at his own house, and there not appearing that change in his mind, which is necessary to his being restored to the unity of Friends, we now believe it incumbent upon us in discharge of the service confided to us by the Yearly Meeting, to recommend his case to the immediate notice and care of South Kingston Monthly Meeting."

The Yearly Meeting's Committee having in full unity adopted the foregoing document, appointed several of their number to attend South Kingston Monthly Meeting, to be held on the 24th of the 4th month, and lay the same before that meeting; to which service they attended and presented the communication to said meeting, which was read and directed to be recorded; and a committee of four friends was appointed to visit John Wilbur on the occasion.

When the above communication was read in the meeting, it appeared he did not expect it would be entered upon the records, and he manifested much objection to it, notwithstanding he remarked, "I am glad it has come here, and now I shall be tried by my friends". The friend who was now clerk of the meeting, a worthy Elder in Society, it was believed would act impartially in the case. At the next Monthly Meeting, it being their usual time for the appointment of clerk, and the usage of that Meeting being, for the representatives from the Preparative Meetings to propose the name of a clerk

to the Meeting, they met, but could not agree upon a name, a part of them being in favour of the re-appointment of the old Clerk, & the others for substituting a person in his place who, in diverse respects, was considered unsuitable for the station.

The Meeting was informed that the representatives could not agree upon a Clerk, and it was proposed by those in favour of sustaining the order of Society, that the subject should be deferred one month, while on the other hand violent opposition was made to this course, and another person proposed as Clerk, whose name had not been under consideration by the representatives, when by the force of that decision, a great tumult and disorder ensued; many taking an active part in producing it, who were not in the practice of regularly attending meetings for discipline, nor careful in the support of our Christian testimonies. After a scene of great disorder, which was continued for a long time, the Clerk, the Clerk, after bearing his testimony against their proceedings, withdrew from the table without making any minute in the case; and the individual who had thus been proposed out of the established practice of that Society, assumed the place, and made a minute appointing himself as Clerk for the ensuing year. Thus was a person placed at the table in an irregular manner, and contrary to the judgment of many well concerned and consistent Friends. The next irregular step was to make an addition to the committee appointed the previous month in the case of John Wilbur. Five persons were added to the committee; four of whom were his family connections, and all of them it was believed, very much under his influence. As an evidence of the arrangement made out of Meeting, in relation to the appointment of this addition to the committee, it may be mentioned, that when a friend was named, who it was believed would act with impartiality, a son-in-law of John Wilbur objected to his name, alleging as a reason, that he was requested by John Wilbur to do so, should he be nominated; and the acting Clerk accordingly refused to take his name.

In the 6th mo. 1842, the Yearly Meeting again appointed a Committee to act on its behalf, with the same concern as heretofore. At a meeting of this Committee at Newport the 17th of 6th mo. 1842, twenty three members being present, they were united in advising Timothy W. Collins, the former Clerk, not to give up the books & papers of South Kingston Monthly Meeting, but to keep them safely, as the proceedings of that Meeting in the appointment of Clerk had not been regular.

On the 27th of 6th mo. a number of the Yearly Meetings Committee again attended South Kingston Monthly Meeting. The following is an extract from the minutes made on the occasion:

"Most of the proceedings of the Monthly Meeting were conducted in a very exceptionable manner; and on the part of some of its members disorderly in no small degree; and the Committee ^{became} apprehensive that the members who constitute this Meeting in their present disappointed and unsettled state, are not in a situation to hold a Monthly Meeting to the honour and reputation of Society. And finding as we did that they had at their previous Monthly Meeting displaced the Clerk in an unusual and abrupt manner, and appointed another to that office as before stated, all of which was against the judgment and wishes of the solid portion of the members; we, therefore with a view to the promotion of unity and harmony among them, believed it right to advise the Meeting to reinstate the former Clerk, and the present one to withdraw from the table. This advice and proposal a considerable portion of the members objected to, and refused to comply with, and manifested great disrespect towards the Committee, by many unkind expressions and insinuations. We were likewise informed that at their last Meeting they made an addition of five to the Committee appointed in the 4th mo. last in the case of John Wilbur, which addition or appointment, with its attendant unjustifiable circumstances, was cause of regret to the rightly exercised members of the meeting, and we think is evidently calculated to embarrass, if not entirely defeat any just decision in that case. In taking a view of the state and condition of that Meeting, and the transactions here detailed, we are induced to believe that

what has already transpired, is only the precursor of a still greater departure from good order and the truth, even to open revolt.

"It seems proper further to note that the becoming moderation and Christian meekness evinced by the rightly exercised part of the meeting, afforded us the comfortable assurance that the true good, although oppressed and borne down, is far from being extinct.

On the 11th of the 7th mo. following, six of the Yearly Meeting's Committee met those appointed by South Kingstown Monthly Meeting in the case of John Welby, and proceeded to lay before them full documentary evidence to establish each point contained in the communication addressed to the Monthly Meeting against him. After going through with which, he in his defence brought before the Committee what purported to be extracts from the writings of the friend from England, towards whom he had manifested his opposition.

To this they objected as being wholly irrelevant to the case, the complaint against him being for a violation of the order and discipline of the Society; and upon its being finally decided by the Monthly Meeting's Committee, to allow him to take what course he chose in justification of himself, the Yearly Meeting's Committee presented them with the following written memorandum, and withdrew, viz: "As you have decided not to confine the investigation to the charges submitted as the document presented to the Monthly Meeting; but allow the subject of doctrines to be introduced in justification of the charges; we must decline remaining any longer present with the Committee."

On the 26th of 7th mo several of the Yearly Meeting's Committee attended South Kingstown Monthly Meeting. It was very apparent that those who attempted to control the proceedings of the Meeting, through the assistance of their clerk, who was irregularly and improperly appointed, were not qualified to conduct the affairs of the Church; being apparently deficient in a religious sense of the weight and importance of the work.

After this Meeting, the Yearly Meeting's Committee presented the following communication to Rhode Island Quarterly

Meeting, held the 4th of 8th mo. 1842.

To Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting:

"A number of the Yearly Meetings' Committee, having several times attended South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, have become satisfied, that from the want of love and unity, and from the spirit of insubordination manifest amongst them, in the management of the concerns of Society, they are not in a suitable state to conduct the affairs of the Church to the honour of Truth: and we are united in judgment that the immediate care of the Quarterly Meeting needs to be extended in the case. 7th mo. 25th, 1842."

The subject being thus brought before the Quarterly Meeting, and the answers to the Queries from South Kingstown, and also from Swansey Monthly Meeting, manifesting great deficiencies, a committee was appointed and the following minute made in the case, viz:

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, held at Portsmouth, the 4th of 8th mo., 1842, the following communication from the Yearly Meetings' Committee was received at this time. And it appearing by the answers to the Queries that there is a want of ^{that} love and unity which are essential to the best interests of the body, both in South Kingstown and Swansey Monthly Meetings, the whole subject received our deliberate and solid consideration, and we appoint the following friends to visit ~~then~~ those meetings and labour in conjunction with the Yearly Meetings' Committee, for the preservation of right order and the promotion of love & unity; and they are requested to act in our behalf in rendering such advice and assistance to said meetings and individuals as best wisdom may direct, and report to our next meeting."

On the 22nd of the 8th mo. 1842, a number of the Yearly Meetings' Committee, in conjunction with the Committee of the Quarterly Meeting, again attended South Kingstown Monthly Meeting. The following extract from the minutes of the first named committee gives an account of their proceedings, viz:

When the opening minute, and the minute of the

During the meeting making the appointment of a committee, were read, a report from the committee in John Wilbur's case was called for by a member which was immediately presented & read. It was signed by seven members, and stated in substance, that they had heard the Yearly Meeting's committee and John Wilbur, and that they were of the judgment that the evidence adduced did not support the charges; and it ended in recommending the dismissal of the complaint against him.

A report was also presented, signed by two of the committee, stating, substantially, that they considered all the charges fully verified, and they differed entirely in judgment from the other members of the committee &c. This report they refused for a considerable time to read. In answer^{ing} it was stated, that they being a part of the committee, had a right to be heard as to their judgment in the case as that which you are meeting in connection with the same matter as viewed by all the committee. They at length yielded, and after it was read, they voiced the reception of the report by the company, and it appeared that those who were near relatives:—among them were one son, four sons-in-law, and a number of his uncles more remote; there being still one or two who were unconnected either by consanguinity or affinity. But here appeared, as far as the preparing of the report and advocating its reception were concerned, to be almost entirely a family matter.

some, saying they were aware of the authority of the Quarterly Meeting to give them advice, but as the Monthly Meeting had a right to act independently according to their own judgment, they might receive or reject it as they thought proper; if they had no independence of action, it was not advice, but a mere mandate. Thus they continued to set at naught and entirely reject the counsel and advice administered to them, by both Committees then present, and finally a minute was made accepting the report of the Committee of Advice, restoring John Wilbur to membership, contrary to the expressed sense and judgment of several well concerned and consistent members of that meeting.

The Quarterly Meeting's Committee again attended South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, the 24th of 10th mo., 1842, and presented to it the following communication, viz:

"The Committee appointed by the Quarterly Meeting to visit South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, and for other services, now believe it right to state to South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, that having taken into our deliberate consideration the proceedings of that Meeting in the eighth month last, and other proceedings connected with it, which have had the effect to produce the present unhappy differences existing in that meeting, and the state of insubordination in which it now is, have come to the conclusion, that the placing Samuel Sheffield at the table to act as Clerk, in the fifth month last, in the irregular and disorderly manner in which it was effected, and by which procedure the feelings and voices of many of the members were wholly disregarded, and being satisfied that he took his seat at the table and made the minute appointments himself, out of the usual and long established mode of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting in appointing their Clerk: We do therefore write with the advice previously given to Timothy C. Collins, by the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, that he should continue for the present to retain the records of that Meeting, and as this Committee were also fully united in the advice given in the eighth month last to South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, not to accept the report in the case of John Wilbur, presented by that portion of the Committee, no objection was added contrary

to the general usage of our Society, to the committee in the fourth month, to have charge of the case, after Samuel Sheffield took his seat at the table in the fifth month, and as we have cause to apprehend, from the manner in which they were selected, and from their relationship to the individual under care, it was with a view to prevent the impartial exercise of our Christian Discipline: We, therefore, now on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting, advise South Kingstown Monthly Meeting at this time to remove Samuel Sheffield from acting as Clerk, and to reappoint Timothy C. Collins to the service; - to dismiss the case of Timothy C. Collins from their records, and discharge the Committee appointed last month to visit him as an offender for retaining the records of said meeting as advised to do by this Committee; - and likewise that the decision in the eighth month last, as entered on their minutes in relation to John Wilbur, against the judgment of many concerned friends of that meeting, and regardless of the advised advice of this Committee, be now set aside, and be made void and of no effect."

The Meeting, not being willing to receive this advice, as it was bound to do by the provisions of Discipline, and then if not satisfied therewith to appeal therefrom, and the advice being given in the name and on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting, the Committee deemed it proper to make the following report of the case to the Quarterly Meeting in the 11th month, proposing that South Kingstown Monthly Meeting should be dissolved, viz:

"To Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting to be held at Somerset."

The Committee appointed to visit Swansey and South Kingstown Monthly Meetings, and for other services, reports - that several of their number attended two sessions of Swansey Monthly Meeting, and communicated such advice as appeared to them suitable at the time and as was offered first but they attended the ensuing Session of South Kingstown in the eighth month, and in conjunction with a number of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee the presence endeavored to labor, we trust in a spirit of love, for the preservation of right order in the exercise of the Discipline, and to encourage a proper submission to the advice of Superior meetings so essential to the best interests of our Society. We

request, to inform that our counsel did not meet on the part of many with a kind reception, and the impression was manifest and universal, to refer to an independent person.

The following communication was prepared and presented at their last meeting, viz: [cited above]. This communication was read in the meeting and directed to be recorded, and its further consideration referred to their next meeting. Several persons expressed their desire that its recommendations should be considered by the meeting. From what has been witnessed by the Committee, and from authentic information derived from others, they have come to the conclusion after a careful consideration of the subject, that South Kingstown Monthly Meeting is not in a suitable state to conduct the affairs of the Church in accordance with our Christian Discipline, nor consistently with our religious profession. We therefore submit it to the Brethren's Meeting as our judgment, that South Kingstown Monthly Meeting be dissolved and that the members constituting it be joined to those constituting Greenwich Monthly Meeting.

This report was weightily considered and fully united with, and the meeting accordingly dissolved, and the following minute made in the case, viz:

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to visit Swansea and South Kingstown Monthly Meetings, and in their services, made the following report, viz: [see said report above] which is accepted; and after a careful consideration of the subject, this meeting concluded, with the unity of the Women's Meeting, to discontinue & dissolve South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, and to join its members to those comprising Greenwich Monthly Meeting, and to join the Select Preparative Meeting to those of Greenwich Monthly Meeting. The books of record and papers of the former are to be delivered to such persons as the latter may select to receive them. The proceedings of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting against Timothy C. Brown, after being informed by the Committee acting on our behalf of the advice given to him, are hereby annulled and declared to have no effect whatever. And the minute made in the 5th month, adding to the Committee appointed in the 4th month, upon the complaint made against John Hobbs, & five members, and the minute made in the 8th month, accepting the report of a part of the Committee in

his case, being at that time made against the direct advice of the Quarterly Meetings' Committee, are also hereby annulled and declared void. All the unfinished business now before that Meeting is directed to be transferred to Greenwich Monthly Meeting, and Committees and others under appointment in South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, are requested to report to Greenwich Monthly Meeting. The Committee ^{now} under appointment are requested to have a copy of this minute, signed by the Clerk, read at the opening of their next Monthly Meeting at Hopkinton, and to request those assembled quietly to separate and consider themselves of Greenwich Monthly Meeting, and under its care.

at Hopkinton 2nd Sunday Meeting held at Greenwich 11th Mo. 3rd 1842.

The Committee of the association attending the next Quarterly Meeting of South Kingstown held at Hopkinton the 21st of the 11th Mo. and read the minute of the Quarterly Meeting, when all those who were in unity with the said Meeting quietly withdrew from the house; while the others remained together and came to the conclusion to appeal to our next Yearly Meeting from the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting.

At Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Cranston 11th Mo. 28th, 1842, the foregoing communication from the Quarterly Meeting was read, and the following minute passed in relation thereto, viz:

After deliberate consideration on the contents of said extracts from the minute of the Quarterly Meeting, and in view of our position as a subordinate branch of said Meeting, we acquiesce therein and acknowledge and receive the same as our constitution. We South Kingstown Monthly Meeting solemnly disown this meeting, subject alike with us that members to its future disciplinary action and decision, and in this we have the concurrence of our Friends Meeting and the members belonging to the South Kingstown select Meeting are invited to join the Greenwich select Meeting. And it is the conclusion of this meeting, that Preparative meetings be held as heretofore until otherwise directed, viz: at South Kingstown, West-own, and Hopkinton; and the said Meetings be requested to report to this meeting and the Clerk is requested to furnish with

of the said Committee after having with a copy of his minute.
The clerk of this meeting is appointed to write and receive
the books of records and papers of the late Monthly Meeting of
South Kingstown."

At Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at East-
Greenwich 1st mo. 2nd, 1843, the following minute was made,
viz:

"It appearing by the records of the late Monthly Meeting of
South Kingstown, that a Committee was appointed in the 1st mo.
last, in the case of John Wilbur, to labour with him, and to
report their sense to a future meeting: agreeably to the direc-
tions of the Yearly Meeting, as by minute of said meeting
sent down and received by us at our last Monthly Meeting
will appear - said Committee are now requested to report to
this meeting."

The following action was taken in the case of the next Mo. Meeting viz

"At South Kingstown Monthly Meeting of Friends held 1st mo.
30th, 1843. The Committee in the case of John Wilbur as referred to
in minute of our last meeting, and who were then re-
solved to report to this meeting, made the following report viz:

"We of the Committee appointed by South Kingstown Monthly Meeting
in the 1st mo. last, in the case of John Wilbur, report that we
have attended to the duties assigned us by meeting the Friends of
the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and hearing the evidence in the
case; and which was in our judgment sufficient to substantiate
the charges preferred against him; which charges having relation
entirely to his departure from discipline and good order, it was
evident to us that his defence ought to be predicated on that ground
alone; and whereas the other part of the Committee were willing to
allow him to make his defence, by bearing this the only legitimate
ground, and giving a justification of his conduct by allusions to
Solomon, which in our view was entirely foreign to the subject-
matter under consideration: we therefore felt ourselves bound to
dissent from such a course altogether; and it is our united
sense and judgment that he is not in a situation and state of
mind to be continued a member of our religious society, which we
submit to Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends next to be held at East-
Greenwich, 1st mo. 21st 1843.

Hirekiah Babcock,
William S. Pomeroy.

Which report, after a time of solid and deliberate consideration was
united with and in the said John Wilbur, is accordingly disowned
the right of membership in our religious society, leaving the unity
of the Society entire.

At Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Cranston, 2nd mo.
27th, 1843, the following minute was made:

The Committee to prepare an obituary of a member to be placed on our
records in relation to the disownment of John Wilbur as a member
of our religious society, reported the following, - to be received by
the communication made to South Freetown, viz: The Committee
appointed by South Freetown Monthly Meeting in the 4th month
last, in the case of John Wilbur, on account of the preceding com-
munication, and in accordance with the decision of the Quarterly
Meeting, requested to report to this meeting; having at our last
meeting received their written report, and they reported that two
of their members, Messrs. L. and J. were interviewed with him on the subject
of their appointment, which he declined; and that the other two
members of the Committee, declining to act in the case, we were
induced to unite with them in the conclusion that further
attempts to labour with him would not be productive of benefit,
and that it was incumbent on us for the clearing of Truth, to
disown him as a member of our religious society.

In coming to this painful conclusion, the meeting has been deeply and
sincerely impressed with the conviction that his separation from
our Christian order has been the result of a want of an humble
dependence on the teachings of the Holy Spirit, which would
have preserved him in the path of propriety and safety. We
feel a sorrow & sin that through mercy, he may yet be brought
to a better view of his situation, and be favoured to attain
that place of true humility, in which he will be concerned to
seek reconciliation with Friends.

During the session of the Quarterly Meeting, following
the report of the Committee to the said Quarterly Meeting, which
confirmed the disownment of the said John Wilbur, in his
position as a member of our religious society. When the said Quarterly
Meeting, he appealed to the Yearly Meeting, in the 6th month
1844, and that meeting, by a very united voice confirmed the
judgment of the Quarterly Meeting. The following is the minute

of the Yearly Meeting made in his case, viz:

The Committee appointed on third day previous, the 18th, to take into consideration the case of John Wilbur's appeal from the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, in confirming the judgment of Greenwich Monthly Meeting, in dissolving him, made a report signed by all the Committee (twenty one in number, except one: that having all attended to their appointment, they had heard the appellant and the Committee of the said Quarterly Meeting, fully in the case, as acknowledged by the parties, and that after a time of solemn deliberation, they had come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed; which, after a time of deliberate consideration thereon, was united with and accepted in this Meeting, and the judgment of said Meeting confirmed accordingly.

And John Wilbur being called in as a witness to the conclusion of the Meeting in his case, as embraced in the above minute, was read in his presence."

While present in the Meeting, he acknowledged that he had been kindly and fully heard by the Committee.

A motion to notice given a portion of the members of the late South Kings-town Monthly Meeting, appeared to the Yearly Meeting in 1849, from the decision of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in ~~the~~ dissolving said Monthly Meeting, and attaching them as members to Greenwich Monthly Meeting, and the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting, was confirmed by the Yearly Meeting.

The following minute was made in the case:

A Committee appointed on third day preceding last to take into consideration the case of appeal from the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in dissolving South Kings-town Monthly Meeting, and annexing the members constituting it to Greenwich Monthly Meeting, now produced a report signed by thirteen of their number, informing the Meeting, that having given a full hearing to the parties respectively, they had upon deliberation, come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed; which after a time of deliberate consideration thereon, was united

with respect to this meeting, and the judgment of said meeting
~~was not reported~~ **

As to the existence of the irregularities existing in the Yearly
 Meetings, we proceed to state, that in consequence of these matters, for
 a long time past, there has been a want of unanimity and unity which
 is so essential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth.
 More than two years since, committees were appointed in that
 meeting to propose the names of Clerks and Overseers of Society,
 but they were unable to agree upon ~~any~~ friends for those stations.
 The state of this meeting had claimed the attention of the Yearly
 Meetings' committee, and also of a committee of Rhode Island
 Quarterly Meeting previous to our last Yearly Meeting; and much
 labour had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing dif-
 ficulties, and to produce that organization of the meeting that
 would enable it to carry into effect the Discipline, the administra-
 tion of which had been seriously interrupted.

At our Yearly Meeting in 1844, the Committee to visit subordi-
 nate meetings reported, that in one or more of our Monthly Meet-
 ings, our Christian Discipline was not maintained to the
 honor of Truth, and a Committee was again appointed to extend
 a general care on our behalf. In the preservation of love and uni-
 ty among our members; the maintenance of our Christian princi-
 ples and testimonies, and in the support of the Discipline of the
 Church, and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist
 and advise such meetings and members as circumstances
 may require and way open for under the direction of "his Wisdom".

The Yearly Meetings' Committee with a number of the Quarterly
 Meetings' Committee then under appointment, met with those
 two committees in the 7th month, and united with a part of
 them in their proposing to the meeting the names of certain
 persons for Clerks and Overseers.

With the exception of two or three individuals, all the

* This committee consisted of twenty-one Friends, six of whom pre-
 sented a minority report, in which they declared, from the above
 facts, on account of what they apprehended irregularity in some of the proceedings,
 two declined to sign either report: but when the case was under consideration with the
 meeting, one expressed his unity with the report of the majority.

members of those committees of the Monthly Meeting, either united with the names proposed or expressed their acquiescence therein, when in the presence of the committee; but those who had so acquiesced, subsequently did not sign the reports to the Monthly Meeting. The names of the individuals thus agreed upon, were accordingly reported to the Monthly Meeting, and the reports were fully united with by a large body of the members of that meeting, although a few individuals opposed it.

The Yearly Meeting's Committee then presented to the meeting the following written advice, viz:

To Savanah Monthly Meeting.

Dear friends, — The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to extend a general care on its behalf for the preservation of love and unity among our members, the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the support of the Discipline of the Church, and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require and way open for, under the direction of best Wisdom; having, from a belief that our duty under our appointment required it, met with the committees of your meeting, appointed two years since, to propose the names of Overseers and Clerks; and apprehending that the cause of Truth and the right exercise of our Christian Discipline, urgently demand that there should be no further delay in the cases, were united in giving the following advice. — It appearing by the voluntary declaration of those members of a committee who were present, appointed as we apprehend without the authority of discipline, and out of the usual order of Society, to assist the overseers when they presented a complaint against an individual, that they believed Edmund Chase to be innocent of the charges preferred against him by said individual; and that they did not intend in their report to the Monthly Meeting, to implicate him; we were united in judgment that this document ought not to be retained by the Monthly Meeting among its papers, but destroyed.

The Committee on Overseers informed us that they had agreed upon five friends for this station, and there being

but one of them from within the limits of Fall River Preparative Meeting, it being usual to appoint two from that Meeting, in view of the circumstances, we were united in advising the committee to propose to the meeting to appoint Edmund Chase, in addition to those named, there not appearing any ground for the objection originally urged against his appointments.

The Committee in relation to Clerks, informed us that they could not agree upon names, and after a full consideration of the case, we thought it right to advise the committee to propose to the Monthly Meeting to appoint David Rhoads for Clerk, and Jonathan Trueman for assistant Clerk, if we are now united in advising the Monthly Meeting to make these appointments, and carry into effect these recommendations, believing that thereby the best interests of the Monthly Meeting and its preservation in unity with the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings will be promoted.

On behalf of the Committee,

Swansey, 7th mo: 29, 1844.

Rowland Greene.

The same individuals who opposed making the appointments, now opposed the acceptance of this advice, and Thomas Wilbur, the Clerk, who was one of the number, and who is the son of John Wilbur, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the meeting, although earnestly advised to do so, by the Yearly Meeting's Committee in attendance.

The condition of this Meeting, as it then stood was presented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month, which released its committee previously under appointment, and appointed another to visit Swansey Monthly Meeting and assist in its due organization, that our Christian Discipline might be supported as in former days to the honor of Truth.

At the following Monthly Meeting the individual who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the meeting, and to the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time, (with the exception of those persons who

and interrupted their opposition at the first meeting. In the appointment of David as clerk, and he had been selected at the previous meeting, the individuals then selected proceeded to open the meeting, and the representatives from all the Preparative Meetings presented to him the reports from those meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. During the time that he was preparing his opening minute, one of those who had opposed his appointment, walked to the Clerk's table, which Thomas Wilbur continued to occupy and refused to leave, and placed upon it a paper, which he immediately arose and read, without the liberty of the meeting, which was believed to be an extract from the revised statutes of Massachusetts, showing what was the penalty for disturbing meetings for Divine Worship, and other religious assemblies.

Notwithstanding the meeting had thus appointed David above as clerk, and he was acting in that capacity, Thomas Wilbur continued to sit at the table, and to form and read minutes; and to prevent confusion, Friends, after having read the minute of the Quarterly Meeting appointing its Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon, by far the larger part of the men's Meeting and all the women, withdrawing from the house, and mostly assembling again at the hour of adjournment, to transact the business of the meeting. The persons who sustained the former clerk in his decision against the judgment of the meeting, with several women who were also disaffected towards Society, continued to hold what they call Monthly Meetings; and at Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, in the eleventh month, they presented an account purporting to come from Swansey Monthly Meeting, which was not received or in any way acknowledged. After the business of the Quarterly Meeting was concluded, these individuals, with a few from the other Monthly Meetings, both men and women most of whom had for a length of time openly manifested a want of unity with Friends, remained in the house, and called themselves Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting appointing clerks and a committee to visit subordinate Meetings. This Committee, thus appointed, has since visited the Monthly

Meetings, and attempted to sit in them, and to be recognized as a Committee from the Quarterly Meeting, organized as we have described, in a wholly unprecedented and irregular manner. Most of them being under dealing as offenders in their respective Monthly Meetings, and refusing to leave Friends select — for the support of our Discipline, adjournment — has been resorted to, in order to be freed from this intrusion. A few individuals have been found in each of the Monthly Meetings in Rhode Island Quarter; who being disaffected towards the body of Friends, have, under advisement of this committee, united in forming what they denominate Monthly Meetings, assuming to themselves the names of those meetings respectively.

At the opening of the Yearly Meeting, on second day morning, the 16th of 6th mo., the Clerk proceeded to call over the names of the Representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, (eight in number,) which had been previously entered, as customary, from the accounts that had been handed him from those meetings; when it appeared that all the Friends named in those accounts were present, except three, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were given.

After commencing to read the minute in which the names of the Representatives had been thus entered, another paper addressed to "New England Yearly Meeting of Friends" was laid upon the table, also purporting to be an account from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting; and by direction of the Yearly Meeting, the names of the persons therein given as Representatives to this meeting were also entered upon the minutes and called, when it appeared that they were all present. The last named account was signed by Charles Perry, Assistant Clerk, it being stated that the Clerk was prevented from acting by sickness.

A proposition was then made, and united with by the meeting, that the Representatives from the other seven Quarterly Meetings, those named in the two accounts from Rhode Island being excluded, should constitute a Committee, before whom the persons claiming to be Representatives from that Quarterly Meeting should be fully heard on the subject of their claims respectively; and that the Committee, after

deliberating thereon should refer to the Yearly Meeting which
 is the two bodies thus claiming, was in their judgment.
 The true Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, in itself, with
 and subordinate to their business, and entitled to send
 representatives thereto — no objection being made to the
 case being opened in the meeting in its collective capacity,
 should this be subsequently judged best. The persons who
 claimed to be aggrieved denied the jurisdiction of the com-
 mittee, and declined entering into any investigation of their
 case before them, notwithstanding they had previously sub-
 mitted it to the meeting, preferring charges of unfairness
 in the appointment of the Representatives in the Quarterly
 Meetings. They stated that the Representatives were appointed
 with reference to their business, and that prospective measures
 were employed in one Quarterly Meeting at least to obtain
 such as were desired. It was distinctly denied by Friends that
 any such intention existed — that no Friend from any part
 of the Yearly Meeting could have had any expectation of such
 a reference when the Representatives were appointed, and
 in a subsequent sitting, this denial was confirmed by the
 statements of Friends from each of the Quarterly Meetings so accused.

It may be proper here to remark, that as the meeting had
 previously expressed its sense, that all those claiming to
 be members of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting ought to leave
 the discussion and decision of the question to members from
 the other Quarters; and as the Representatives from the other
 Quarters would, under the proposed reference, be judges in
 the case, these two classes being excluded, the number of those
 who opposed the reference of the subject to the Representatives,
 was very small.

This subject having been thus far disposed of, the Meet-
 ing came to the conclusion that no other business could
 with propriety be entered upon by the Yearly Meeting, till
 it was fully determined. And instead of proceeding to the
 appointment of Clerks on second day afternoon, as usual,
 decided that the Clerks then under appointment should
 continue to serve the Meeting until the question was settled.

Two accounts purporting to be from Rhode Island Quarterly

Meeting, were also presented to the Women's Yearly Meeting, and the whole subject was similarly disposed of by that Meeting, by referring it to all the representatives except those from Rhode Island, to report thereon.

Soon after the opening of the afternoon sitting, a person under appointment as one of the Representatives from Sandwich Quarter, rose and said, that a portion of the Representatives had been together, and concluded to propose the name of Thomas W. Gould for Clerk, and Charles Perry for Assistant Clerk. Upon this, several individuals rose in quick succession, and expressed unity with the nomination.

The large body of the Representatives informed the Meeting, that they had no knowledge that any such proposition was about to be made, and by a very general expression of the members of the Meeting, as well as of the Representatives, the course proposed was wholly disapproved. On calling, the names of all the Representatives in attendance from the several Quarterly Meetings, except Rhode Island, it appeared by their express declaration, that forty-one of their number were not consulted in relation to the appointment of clerks, and that they now entirely dissent from the appointment of Thomas W. Gould & Charles Perry, while four made no response when their names were called, forty five being the whole number in attendance, with the exception of those named in the accounts from Rhode Island. But the persons thus nominated to act as clerks, with others, their adherents, proceeded in reading and speaking, to the disturbance of the Meeting. The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, by its fully expressed direction, solemnly protested against their proceedings, and desired them to desist. To this however, they paid but little attention, and continued to carry out their own business till the adjournment of the meeting. Similar disorderly proceedings took place in the Women's Meeting, with the exception that the Seceders left the house before the Meeting adjourned.

During these disorders, Friends were pressed in much ~~unhappiness~~ ^{grief}, patiently waiting for an opportunity to commence

the business of the Yearly Meeting.

On third day morning, the 17th, the Committee on the case of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, made a report, in which, after giving a statement of the various circumstances connected with the subject referred to their consideration, they express their united sense and judgment, that the accounts from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, signed by David Buffum and Sarah F. Tobey, as Clerks, should be received as the true accounts from the said Quarterly Meeting, and that the representatives therein named should be considered and acknowledged as the representatives from that Quarterly Meeting to this Yearly Meeting. This report was signed by forty-one men, and thirty-eight women, being all the representatives in attendance in the Men's Meeting, except four, and all in the Women's Meeting, except two, apart from the Representatives named in the two accounts from Rhode Island. After the report was read, two friends were appointed to inform the representatives named in the account signed by Charles Perry, Assistant Clerk, that the Committee to whom their claims were referred had made a report, which was about to be considered, and that they might be heard thereon. After a short absence, one of the friends reported that he had delivered the message entrusted to them, to a number of those persons named in the report, whom they had found assembled in the yard, in company with others. Having waited a sufficient time, the Meeting, after hearing the report a second time, by a very general expression confirmed its conclusions, and thus acknowledged the Meeting, of which the accounts were signed by David Buffum and Sarah F. Tobey, as Clerks, to be the true Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, and the Representatives named therein, to be the Representatives from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting to this Yearly Meeting.

While this subject was under consideration, three persons came into the Meeting and demanded the use of the Clerk's table, and the transfer of the books and papers belonging to the Yearly Meeting, stating that they were deputed by what they called "New England Yearly Meeting" to make this demand.

The Clerk in reply, stated that New England Yearly Meeting was then sitting, in this house, and could not deliver the books & papers nor the occupancy of the black's table or of the house to any other persons.

Since this time, the persons who disturbed us have not assembled with us, and we have been favoured to transact the various concerns of society, claiming our attention with great harmony and brotherly love.

We believe the number of those disaffected towards Friends within our limits, to be comparatively small, and are comforted in the view, that the body of Friends amongst us are united in harmonious labour for the promotion of the cause of Truth.

At New England Yearly Meeting, 6mo. 1845.

The Committee appointed to consider various subjects connected with the welfare of society, laid before this meeting the foregoing Document, being a narrative of facts and circumstances that have tended to produce a secession from Friends in this Yearly Meeting, which was read, and being considered, it was united with by a full expression of this Meeting, as being proper information for our own members, and those of other Yearly Meetings, and the Clerk was directed to sign it on our behalf."

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman Jun., Clerk.
Hannah Gould Jun., Clerk.

To our Quarterly, and Monthly Meetings, and Friends
of the several Yearly Meetings on the American continent,
Dear Friends:

We have come up to this, our annual assembly,
with feelings humbled under a sense of varied trials that
surround us; and we trust, with hearts turned unto the
source and fountain of all good that we might witness pres-
ervation, and the Lord might graciously make a way for us
that his Truth might be sustained. And unworthy as we are
in His sight, we feel bound thankfully to acknowledge that
we have good evidence, mercifully granted, that our Heavenly
Father has been pleased to remember us — to extend his
wing of preservation in good measure over us, and time
has permitted us, not only to take sweet counsel together,
but to be refreshed a little with that sustenance which
cometh alone from Him — to His great name be the praise.
And while this has been our experience, our dear absent
brethren have been feelingly remembered, with desires for
their preservation in the truth as it is in Jesus; and, dear
friends, may none of us be moved away from the hope of
the Gospel, or from that sure mark and badge of the true
disciple, the love of the brethren, "for by this" saith Christ,
"shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love
one unto another."

The painful occurrence of a secession from our religious
Society having at this time taken place, accompanied by
circumstances which have covered our spirits with
mourning, we believe ourselves solemnly called upon in
this address, to declare that some who have heretofore
been under our name, and of whom we had hoped other
and better things, influenced as we fear by a dividing
spirit, have only withdrawn themselves from our meet-
ing at this time but have heretofore, as well as now
incharitably accused us of departing from the ancient
doctrines and testimonies borne by our early predecessors
in the truth, and openly declared, that we are un sound
in the faith of the Gospel of Christ as held and pre-
mulgated by them.

These accusations, while they have filled our minds with astonishment and sorrow, we feel bound fully and explicitly to deny. Friends of this Yearly Meeting have not so departed. On the contrary, the ancient doctrines held by our Society, in all their fullness and in all their excellency, are unabatedly dear to us.

Friends, we are sensible that we are encompassed with weakness, that many of us fall short of fully showing, out in life and conversation, the fruits of those blessed doctrines; nevertheless, they are still precious to us, and our desire is that we may all, through obedience and submission to the sanctifying operation of the Spirit of truth, come more and more consistently to bear our testimonies to them before the world.

The all-wise disposer of events, at various times in the history of our religious Society, has permitted that trials of the kind with which we are now exercised should befall it.)

In very early days, on the first gathering and settlement of Meetings in the Society, there were gainsayers and accusers, and at various times since have there arisen among us those who have caused divisions and brought grievous accusations against their brethren. Be not dismayed, then, dear friends, as if something new had happened unto us, but remember that he who hath been with his people in all their trials, hath graciously promised that he will never leave nor forsake those that put their trust in him; and even though it should be given us to hear evils among false brethren, yet let none of these things move us away from the hope of the gospel, or from that fervent charity which, according to apostolic testimony, suffereth long and is kind, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, beareth all things, hopeth all things.

The zeal and fidelity of Friends at different periods of our history, both in very early and more recent times, when the cause of truth was dear to their hearts required it, have been evinced in their solemn declarations of their faith, issued not only to their own

members, but in the face of the world. We believe in the ordering of ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~present~~ ^{present} circumstances, we are called upon again to set forth our faith, and we do therefore unanimously declare that the following testimonies, composed mostly ^{largely} extracts from early writers in the Society, whose writings have ever been approved and sanctioned are and ever have been our faith and belief upon the subjects referred to therein; and we do earnestly desire and affectionately exhort all our members to hold fast the profession thereof without wavering.

Of the One True God and the Three that bear record in Heaven:

The Society of Friends have uniformly declared their belief in One Only Wise Omnipotent, and Eternal Being, the Creator and Preserver of all things, infinite in all glorious attributes and perfections: the inexhaustible source of all good as well as of all happiness, and the holy object of adoration, worship and praise, from angels and from men. —

Evans Exposition.

In speaking of the Three that bear record in Heaven, they have always considered it safest — finite and limited ~~as~~ ^{as} beings as we are — to confine themselves to the language of Holy Scripture, and hence have ever been scrupulous of using the word Person, or any term of human invention, as applied to the Father, Son or Holy Spirit; but as Barclay declares, so we believe: "There are Three that bear record in Heaven, the Father, The Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these Three are one. The Father is in the Son, and the Son is in the Father. No man knoweth the Son but the Father, neither knoweth any man the Father, but the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. The Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God. For the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God: whom the saints have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that they might know the things which are freely given them of God. For the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father sends in Christ's name, He teacheth them all things, and bringeth all things to their remembrance." Barclay's Confession of Faith, pp. 104, 1763.

Though we have rejected the terms of separate and distinct persons, or the Godhead, as conveying ideas too gross to be admitted in

and mysterious subject, we have ever believed, and as constantly maintained, the truth of that great and mysterious doctrine of 'the three that bear record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and that these three are one — one God, infinite, eternal, and incomprehensible, and blessed for ever more.' — *Testimony of Friends.*

George Fox in a work entitled "An answer to all such as falsely say that Quakers are no Christians," declares — "We own the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, as the Apostles have declared. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth; for there are three that bear record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one; and there are three that bear record in earth, which we own. And now let none be offended, because we do not call them by those unscriptural names of Trinity and three persons, which are not Scripture words; and so do say falsely say that we deny the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, which three are one that bear record in Heaven &c.; which three we own with all our hearts, as the Apostle John did, and as all true Christians ever did, and now do. And if ye say we are not Christians, because we do not call the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the Trinity, distinct and separate persons, then you may as well conclude that John was no Christian, who did not give the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost those names."

We believe concerning the Father, Son, and Spirit, according to the testimony of the Holy Scriptures, which we receive and embrace as the most authentic and perfect declaration of Christian faith, being indited by the Holy Spirit of God that never errs. 1st. That there is one God and Father of whom are all things. 2nd. That there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things were made, who was glorified with the Father before the world began, who is God over all blessed forever; that there is one Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father and the Son, and leader and sanctifier, and comforter of his people. And we further believe, as the Holy Scriptures soundly and sufficiently express, that these three are one; even the Father,

the Word, and the Spirit."

The Society of Friends have been enabled, by the concurrent testimony of many of its most eminent members in a collective capacity, their firm belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Saviour of men; that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary — that he wrought miracles in Judea, was hated and rejected by the chief priests and people of the Jews, betrayed by Judas, and crucified under Pontus Pilate: that he rose from the dead on the third day, appeared to his disciples, and ascended to heaven; and ever liveth to make intercession for us; that he is now come in Spirit, and hath given us an understanding, being our Prophet and High Priest, and head over all things to His Church — by whom also God will judge the world in righteousness, whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. This we say is that Lord Jesus Christ whom we own to be our life and salvation."

The Society of Friends hold the precious fundamental doctrine of Immediate Divine Revelation, as expressed by Robert Barclay:

"For Jesus Christ, in and by whom the Father is revealed, doth also reveal himself to his disciples and friends in and by his Spirit, i. e. his manifestation was outward; when he testified and witnessed for the truth in this world, and approved himself faithful throughout, so being now withdrawn, as to the outward man, he doth teach and instruct mankind inwardly by his own Spirit. He standeth at the door and knocketh, & whoso heareth his voice and openeth, he comes in to these."

"He that believeth on the Son of God, hath the witness in himself": this witness is the Holy Spirit, by which the Son of God reveals himself to the soul, gives it faith to believe in his all powerful name, and as he is obeyed and followed, he displays his almighty power and goodness, in pardoning his past sins — delivering it out of the bondage of corruption, and translating it into the liberty of the Sons of God.

Thus Christ is experimentally known as the Redeemer, Saviour and Sanctifier of his people; and those only have a right to call him so, whom he saves from their sins by his own Blessed Spirit. "Therefore I give you to understand,"

with the apostle, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God, call Jesus accursed; and that no man say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost;

The nature of the New Covenant is expressed in Jeremiah, and repeated by the Apostle, in these words: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel, after those days saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, & write them in their hearts, and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people. And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying know the Lord; for they shall all know me, from the least to the greatest. The object here is God's law placed in the heart and written in the mind; from whence they become God's people, and are brought truly to know him. In this then the Law is distinguished from the gospel: the law before was outward, written in tables of stone. but it is now inward, written in the heart. Of old the people depended upon their priests for the knowledge of God. but now they all have a certain and sensible knowledge of him. How much then are they deceived who instead of making the gospel preferable to the law, have made the condition of such as are under the gospel far worse. For no doubt it is a far better and more desirable thing to converse with God immediately than only mediately, as being a higher and more glorious dispensation.

From the Testimony of Friends in America we extract the following:

We therefore profess and firmly believe that the light of Christ in the heart is an unerring guide and the primary rule of faith and practice — that it is the only medium through which we can truly and livingly attain to the knowledge of God, and the mysteries of his heavenly Kingdom.

That the influences of the Holy Spirit must be sensibly experienced, in order to be availing to us, it is evident in the very nature of divine things. It is this which produces all heavenly affections and feelings on the obedient minds.

which opens the understanding, and gives it a right perception, and is in us an operative power, by which we are enabled to resist temptation, and walk in obedience to the law of God. By its powerful operations, we are washed, and sanctified and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, for it is "by the Spirit of our God." 1 Cor. 6-11. We desire to press the importance of this doctrine, and to guard it against innovation.

As regards the Fall of Man, and the Means of Redemption, the Society of Friends hold, that -

Man was originally created in the Divine image. 'In the image of God created he him,' 'crowned him with glory and honour,' and set him over the works of his hands. But by transgression he fell from this exalted condition; incurred the penalty of death; and so lost the divine image - the wisdom, purity, and power in which he was made.

This lapse of our prime ancestor, not only immediately affected the actual transgressors, but remotely all their posterity. The Society of Friends, in declaring their belief of the extension of the effects of Adam's fall, to all his posterity, have been careful to distinguish between those effects, as they apply to us simply in a state of nature, or as the posterity of Adam in his fallen state; and the guilt or sin which attaches to us in consequence of our own actual transgressions.

Though we do not ascribe any whit of Adam's transgression to men until they make it their's by the like acts of disobedience; yet we cannot suppose that men, who are come of Adam naturally, can have any good thing in their nature as belonging to it; which he, from whom they derive their nature, had not himself to communicate to them. If then, we may affirm that Adam did not retain his nature (as belonging thereto) nor any will or light, capable to give him light or knowledge in spiritual things, then neither can his posterity. For what so ever real good any man doeth, it proceedeth not from his nature as he is man or the son of Adam; but from the seed of God in him, as a new visitation of his, in order to bring him out of his natural condition. [Barclays Apology.]

"For we affirm, that as all men partake of the fruit of Adam's fall, in that by reason of that evil seed, which through him is

communicated unto them, they are prone and inclined unto evil, though thousands of thousands be ignorant of Adam's fall, neither ever knew of the eating the forbidden fruit; so also many may come to feel the influence of this holy and divine seed and light, and be turned from evil to good by it, though they knew nothing of Christ's coming in the flesh, though whose obedience and sufferings it is purchased unto them. "Ibid. Prop. 5 & 6. 15. "Thus by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: for until the law, sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who ~~is~~^{is} the figure of him that was to come." Rom. 5: 12. 13. 14.

We consider then our redemption in a two-fold respect or state, both which in their own nature are perfect, though in their application to us, the one is not, nor can be without respect to the other. The first is the redemption performed and accomplished by Christ for us, in his crucified body; without us, the other is the redemption wrought by Christ in us, which no less properly is called and a redemption than the former.

The first, then, is that whereby a man, as he stands in the fall, is put into a capacity of salvation, and hath conveyed unto him a measure of that power, virtue, spirit, life and grace, that was in Jesus Christ, which as the free gift of God, is able to counterbalance, overcome and root out the evil seed, wherewith we are naturally as in the fall leavened. The second is that, whereby we witness and know this pure and perfect redemption in ourselves, purifying, cleansing and redeeming us from the power of corruption, and bringing us into unity, favour and friendship with God. By the first of these two, we that were lost in Adam, plunged in the bitter and corrupt deed, unable of ourselves to do any good thing, but naturally joined and united to evil, forward and propense to all iniquity; servants and slaves to the power and spirit of darkness, are notwithstanding at this so far recovered to God, by the death of his Son, ^{our} enemies,

that we are put into a capacity of salvation. having the glad tidings of the gospel of peace offered unto us and God is reconciled unto us in Christ, calls and invites us to himself.

By the second, we witness this capacity brought into act whereby receiving and not resisting the purchase of his death to wit, the light spirit and grace of Christ, revealed in us we witness and possess a real, true and inward redemption from the power and prevalence of sin and so come to be truly and really redeemed, justified and made righteous and to a sensible union and friendship with God. Thus he died for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and thus we know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable to his death. This last follows the first in order, and is a consequence of it, proceeding from it as an effect from its cause. So as none could have enjoyed the last, without the first had been such being the will of God; so also can none now partake of the first, but as he witnesseth the last."

"And not only does the propitiation of our Lord Jesus Christ avail to the effects of the fall, and places us in a capacity of obtaining salvation, but also to the actual transgressions of men.

For as all men, who have come to man's estate (the man Jesus only excepted) have sinned, therefore all have need of this Saviour to remove the wrath of God from them due to their offences; in this respect he is truly said to have borne the iniquities of us all in his body on the tree, and therefore is the only Mediator, having qualified the wrath of God towards us, so that our former sins stand not in our way, being, by virtue of his most satisfactory sacrifice, removed and pardoned. Neither do we think that remission of sins is to be expected, sought or obtained any other way, or by any works or sacrifice whatsoever. Barclay.

For sin once committed cannot be undone. present and future obedience is no more than duty. and past offences must still remain against us without forgiveness." [Original and Present State of Man]
 "But in ~~the~~ respect to us as moral agents, we believe that though Christ died for us, that we might be brought

unto glory, yet we are not actually purified, fitted for, and introduced into the Kingdom, merely by that one offering. "The way of Reconciliation was opened by the death of Christ, but we are not saved by his life, till we livingly experience the work of sanctification in our own particulars." Ib. 19.

And again, we do not hereby intend any way to lessen or derogate from the atonement and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, but on the contrary do magnify and exalt it. For as we believe all these things to have been certainly transacted which are recorded in the Holy Scriptures concerning the birth life, miracles, sufferings, resurrection and ascension of Christ so we do also believe that it is the duty of every one to believe it to whom it pleases God to reveal the same and to bring them to the knowledge of it. [Barclay.]

For (as saith the Apostle) the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge that if one died for all, then were all dead, and that he died for all that they which henceforth live should not live unto themselves, but unto him who died for them and rose again."

In reference to the Universality of Divine Light & Grace, we believe in accordance with the testimony of Robert Barclay:

"That God, who, out of his infinite love sent his son the Lord Jesus Christ into the world who tasted death for every man, hath given to every man whether Jew or Gentile, Turk or Scythian, Indian or Barbarian, of whatsoever nation, country or place, a certain day or time of visitation during which it is possible for him to be saved and to partake of the benefit of Christs death. That for this end he hath communicated to every man a measure of the light of his own son a measure of grace or of the Spirit, which the Scripture expresses by several names, as sometimes of the seed of the Kingdom, the light that makes all things manifest, the word of God, or the manifestation of the Spirit given to profit withal, 'a talent', 'a little heaven' the gospel, preaching in every creature,

"That God, in and by this light and son, invites, calls, exhorts, and strives with every man, in order to save him, which as it is received and not resisted, works the salvation of all, even those who are ignorant of the death and sufferings of Christ, and

of Adam's fall; both by bringing them to a sense of their own misery, and to be sharers in the sufferings of Christ inwardly; and by making them partakers of his resurrection in becoming holy, pure and righteous, and recovered out of their sins. By which also are saved they that have the knowledge of Christ outwardly, in that it opens their understandings rightly to use and apply the things delivered in the Scriptures, and to receive the saving use of them. But that this may be resisted and rejected by both in which then God is said to be resisted and pressed down, and Christ to be again crucified and put to open shame, in and among men: and to those who thus ^{resist and} refuse him, he becomes their condemnation.

"We do not understand this divine principle to be any part of man's nature, nor yet to be any relic of any good which Adam lost by his fall, in that we make it a distinct and separate thing from man's soul, and all the faculties of it.")

The Holy Scriptures.

Concerning the Holy Scriptures, we believe they were given forth by the Holy Spirit of God, through the Holy men of God, who, as the scripture itself declares, (2 Peter. 1. 21.) spake as they were moved of the Holy Ghost. We believe they are to be read, believed, and fulfilled, (He that fulfils them is Christ,) and they are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Tim. 3. 16, 17,) and are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (Tit. 1. 2.) We believe the Holy scriptures are the words of God, for it is said in Exodus 20. 1, God spake all these words saying, &c. meaning the ten commandments given forth on Mount Sinai; and in Rev. 22. 18, saith John, I testify to every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man addeth unto these, and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, (not the word,) &c. So in Luke 1. 20, Because I have believed not my words - and in John 5. 47, and 10. 7, and 14. 23, and 13. 47. So that we call the Holy Scriptures, as Christ, the Apostles and Holy men of God called them, viz. the words of God. (George Fox's Journal, Vol. 2.)

"Nevertheless, because they are only a declaration of the fountain, and not the fountain itself, therefore they are not to be esteemed the principal ground of all truth and knowledge, nor yet the adequate primary rule of faith and manners. Yet because they give a true and faithful testimony of the first foundation, they are and may be esteemed a secondary rule, subordinate to the Spirit, from which they have all their excellency and certainty; for as by the inward testimony of the Spirit, we do alone truly know them, so they testify, That the Spirit is that guide, by which the saints are led into all truth; therefore, according to the Scriptures, the Spirit is the first and principal leader. Seeing then that we do therefore receive and believe the Scriptures, because they proceed from the Spirit, for the very same reason is the Spirit more originally and principally the rule."

Though then we do acknowledge the Scriptures to be very heavenly and divine writings, the use of them to be very comfortable and necessary to the Church of Christ, and that we also admire and give praise to the Lord, for his wonderful providence in preserving these writings so pure and uncorrupted as we have them, through so long a night of apostacy, to be a testimony of his truth against the wickedness and abominations even of those whom he made instrumental in preserving them, so that they have kept them as a witness against themselves." Barclay.

It continues to be our unshaken faith that a measure of the same divine influence under which the Holy Scriptures were given forth, is indispensably necessary to a right understanding of them. With this we believe our early Friends were eminently favoured, and that their writings contain those expositions of the truths of Holy Scripture which we do most firmly believe - and it is our earnest concern to commend these writings to the frequent and attentive perusal of Friends, as containing not only the doctrines held by our religious Society, but as practically exemplifying their application in life.

Concerning Justification,

In the words of Barclay, Friends believe that

"As many as resist not the Spirit, but receive the same,

it becomes in them an holy, pure, and spiritual birth, bringing forth holiness, righteousness, purity, and all those other blessed fruits which are acceptable to God: by which holy birth, to wit, Jesus Christ formed within us, and working his works in us, as we are sanctified, so are we justified in the sight of God; according to the Apostles words; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." 1 Cor. 6: 11.

Therefore it is not by our works, wrought in our will, nor yet by good works considered as of themselves, but by Christ, who is both the gift and the giver, and the cause, producing the effects in us; who as he hath reconciled us while we were enemies, doth also in his wisdom save us and justify us after this manner, as with the same Apostle elsewhere; according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Spirit." Tit. 3: 5.

Justification is not to be realized but by that living faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, an operative principle, the gift of God, and not of ourselves — not an assent of the understanding merely to any declared truths, but a living conviction wrought in the heart, by the operation of the Spirit of God.

From a Confession of Faith, by George Fox, "for the satisfaction of some tender, conscientious persons, who had heard false reports of him;" we extract the following, viz:

"Touching the resurrection, it is a mystery which the carnal mind cannot comprehend, but they that come to witness a part in the first resurrection, which is Christ Jesus, the Light of Life; they in his light may come to perceive the mystery of the resurrection; but if truth can be received and understood, then it will appear and be manifested to such, that I do not deny the resurrection, for I do verily believe that the hour is coming, in which all who are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of condemnation; but to fools that say, that this natural body of natural flesh and blood

bones shall be raised, I say, that body which is down, is not that body that shall be; but God gives a body as it pleaseth him, yet to come seed its own body: now, there is the seed of the righteous and the seed of Christ; and they can discern the body of each seed; and not the facts which are questioning how the dead shall be raised, and with bodies they shall come; for they know all mankind will be found to be one of these seeds, and that every seed shall have its own body."

Doubtless. — And there is one God, and one faith, &c. there is but one Baptism, of which that administered by John was a figure. It is "not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but by answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." This answer of a good conscience, can only be produced by the cleansing operations of the Holy Spirit in the heart, subduing its passions and bringing it into conformity to the divine will. The distinction between the baptism of John, which was with water, and that of Christ by his Spirit, is clearly marked by these expressions of Jesus: "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire, whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into the garner, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Matt. 3: 11, 12.

Here he inculcates that the baptism of Christ should win now the soul of its chaffy or sinful nature, and operate as fire to the perfect consumption of all its defilement. Spirit baptism is not connected with water baptism, nor ^{at} all dependant upon it. The baptism of the Spirit, which is the one baptism, is complete in itself without exterior form or shadow. It is well known by the experience of many, that this baptism is gradually effected by the spiritual immersions of the soul. At first, of its sinful condition; with the distance it stands at from the God of perfect purity, is first given it, whereby it is brought into self abasement and contrition, and at length into humble resignation of all to him. Thus it becomes baptized

into the similitude of the death of Christ. Through baptism also it riseth with him into newness of life, which enables it to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit to his praise.

To them who had thus followed Christ in the regeneration, the apostle said: Ye are complete in him, who is the head of all principality and power. In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. "Col. 2: 10, 11, 12."

True Christian baptism is a great and important work: the work of Christ himself, whereby the soul is measurably baptized into his Spirit, and adorned with its virtues. "As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ." Gal. 3: 27. Such are, in degree, indwelt with his holy nature. For "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new, and all things are of God." 2 Cor. 5: 17, 18. See Phipps on Baptism.

Previously to entering upon their ministry, the apostles were baptized with the Holy Ghost, through which they received power to fulfil the commission given to them in these words: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Whenever the gospel is really preached, it is preached baptizingly in a greater or less degree. It was the unction of the Holy Spirit accompanying their ministry, by which the apostles were enabled to teach, baptizing in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and it is only through the same medium that the same effect is produced in any degree, by the ministry of the gospel at the present day. "Testimony of Thomas. Phipps."—Respecting the communion of the body and blood of Christ, we believe that it is inward & spiritual; by which the inward man is truly nourished in the hearts of those in whom Christ dwells; of which the breaking of bread by the Lord Jesus, with his disciples

was a figure; which they who had received the substance, used in the church for a time, for the sake of the weak, as they did from their outward observations. But the essential communion between Christ and his church, is only maintained by a real participation of his divine nature, through faith and obedience; and is the supper alluded to in the Revelations: "Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3: 20.

Worship.—"Being fully persuaded that man without the Spirit of Christ inwardly revealed, can do nothing to the glory of God, or to effect his own salvation, we believe that its divine influence is essentially necessary to the performance of the highest act of which the human mind is capable, even the worship of Almighty God, in spirit and in truth. To experience this essential qualification, it is our duty to retire inwardly to the measure of divine grace, patiently and reverently waiting upon the Lord, for his life-giving presence, by which we shall be furnished with a sense of what we need, and enabled to offer with acceptance that offering which he requires at our hands. And whether it may please the great Head of the Church to authorize any vocal communication in our assemblies or not, yet those who are thus inwardly gathered, depending upon the teachings of the Holy Spirit, and waiting for the arising of his divine life, will witness a growth in the knowledge of the blessed truth — and be of the 'number of the true worshippers whom the Father seeketh to worship him; who rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.'"

Although true worship is not restricted to time or place, yet we have ever believed it to be incumbent upon us to meet often together, in order to bear a public testimony of our dependence upon the Father of all our sure mercies, and to experience the renewal of spiritual strength. We would therefore affectionately exhort all our members, not to suffer the smallness of their numbers, or the improper influence of temporal things, to discourage them from constantly attending our religious meetings, but to remember that our Lord has declared, "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18: 20.

... we can feelingly bear our testimony to the preciousness of silent meetings, wherein as we are humbly concerned presently to wait upon the Lord, He is then pleased in great mercy to draw near and to dispense to his dependent ones that bread that sustains the spiritual life, and that water that slakes the thirsty soul; and we also unequivocally declare our belief that any change in our well known ancient mode of divine worship, will tend to endanger the very existence of our religious Society.

Ministry. — "We believe that the authority and qualification for the ministry of the Gospel, is a special gift, dispensed by the Head of the Church, to those whom he sanctifies, and prepares for the work, agreeably to the testimony of the Holy Scriptures. And he gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors & teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Eph. 4: 11, 12. This gift cannot be exercised, but as the ministers are actuated and moved by the Spirit of Christ, and minister under the renewed influences and workings thereof, according to the apostolic injunction: "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth, that God in all things may be glorified, through Jesus Christ." 1 Pet. 4: 11.

As this gift is freely received, so it is to be freely exercised, without coveting any man's silver or gold: not for the sake of popularity, nor restrained by the slavish fear of man, but in humble and simple obedience to the will of God."

"As it is the sole prerogative of the Head of the Church to qualify and send forth such as it pleases him, without respect to sex, worldly rank or human acquisitions, he has conferred the gift of the ministry on women as well as men; as foretold by the prophet Joel, and confirmed by the apostles of our Lord: and it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." Joel 2: 28.

"As by the light or gift of God all true knowledge in things spiritual is received and revealed, so by the same

as it is manifested and received in the heart, by the strength and power thereof, every true minister is ordained, prepared, and supplied in the work of the ministry, and by the leading, moving and drawing hereof, ought every evangelist and Christian pastor to be led and ordered in his labors and work of the gospel, both as to the place where, as to the persons to whom, and as to the time wherein he is to minister. Therefore they who have this authentic and right to preach the gospel, though without human commission or literature; as on the other hand, they who want the authority of this divine gift, however learned, or authorized by the commission of men and churches, are to be esteemed but as deceivers, and not true ministers of the gospel. Also they who have received this holy and unspotted gift, as they have fully received it, so are they fully to give it." Bancroft
Regarding the solemn exercise of prayer, we hold that

Although we are commanded to watch and pray continually, neither of which can be done without divine help, yet we believe that the solemn duty of vocal prayer requires a special impulse, and in our addresses to the throne of Grace, it becomes us to remember that we are but dust — that 'He who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders,' ought to be approached with holy reverence and fear. But we are enabled to draw near to him in living faith, for the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us, with groanings that cannot be uttered.' And as he that searcheth the heart, knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints, according to the will of God, we doubt not that those prayers which are put up under divine influence, will be graciously answered. "First of Fruits in America."

We are very sensible and it is our practical belief, that true prayer consisteth not in any form of words, but in the aspirations of the soul, mentally experienced or vocally expressed, under the immediate influence of the Spirit of Christ.

On the First Day of the Week.

"We, not seeing any ground in Scripture for it, cannot be so superstitious as to believe, that either the Jewish Sabbath was continuous, or that the first day of the week is the antitype thereof, or the true Christian Sabbath, which with Calvin we believe.

to have a more spiritual sense: and therefore we know of no moral obligation by the fourth command, or elsewhere, to keep the first day of the week more than any other, or any holiness inherent in it. But first, forasmuch as it is necessary that there be some time set apart for the saints to meet together to wait upon God; and that secondly, it is fit at some times they be freed from their other outward affairs; and that thirdly, reason and equity doth allow that servants and beasts have some time allowed them to be eased from their continual labour; and that fourthly, it appears that the apostles and primitive Christians did use the first day of the week for these purposes; we find ourselves sufficiently moved for these causes to do so also, without superstitiously straining the Scriptures for another reason; which, that it is not there to be found, many Protestants, yea, Calvin himself, upon the fourth command, hath abundantly vinced. And though we therefore meet, and abstain from working upon this day, yet doth that not hinder us from having meetings also for worship at other times.

Barclay's Apology.

Our early friends were remarkable for the plainness and simplicity of their lives and conversation, in their conscientious testimony against the vanities, maxims & customs of the world, in their clothing, the furniture of their houses, and in all their appointments in life. We desire to continue steadfast in the support of these testimonies, believing them to be among the genuine fruits of the Spirit of Christ.

The foregoing extracts from the early writers of the Society of Friends, with the remarks accompanying them, contain declarations upon most of the subjects upon which our religious Society have hitherto declared their faith, and perhaps upon all, upon which it may be necessary for us now to treat. It may be added, however, that upon all the different doctrines and testimonies as held and supported by Friends, our views accord with those that are set forth in the well known and acknowledged writings of our religious Society.

We have thus, dear Friends, seriously and candidly declared our faith upon these various points of Christian doctrine, and we entirely disclaim, and have invariably disclaimed all views

and doctrines inconsistent therewith, from whatever source they may come, or by whomsoever they may be promulgated; and we do not consider ourselves responsible for the writings of any individuals which have not received the approval of a meeting of the Society authorized to inspect and sanction writings on doctrines; nor do we countenance the receiving of any sentiments which are at variance with those contained in our approved writers.

Having thus endeavored to discharge our religious duty in this respect, we desire to cultivate the disposition to have the event to Him, who doeth all things well, without whose notice not even a sparrow falleth to the ground, and who can turn the hearts of the children of men as it pleaseth Him.

May the undumbering Shepherd of Israel watch over and preserve us, may his Almighty arm be underneath to sustain us, and may we one and all put our dependence entirely in Him.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 15th to the 22d, inclusive, of the 6th month, 1845—

The foregoing document, embracing the Doctrines of the Gospel as they ever have been, and are now most assuredly believed by the Society of Friends, was laid before us by the Committee appointed to take into solid and careful consideration, what they apprehend may be called for at our hands, under the present peculiar and trying circumstances in which we are placed; and being read, was fully united with, and adopted by the Meeting, and declared to be its Faith upon the subjects on which it treats. And the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf.

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun, Clerk.

Hannah Gould, Jun, Clerk.

the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends is held on the 1st of July, by adjournment from the 11th to the 14th inclusive of the month, 1846.

The representatives appointed by the Quarterly Meetings to attend this Meeting, are, from
Rhode Island - Joanna Peck, Elizabeth Wingo, Mary Sherer, Elizabeth Meader, Deborah Collins, Mary Williams and Anne Hopkins.

Salem - Alice Page, Elizabeth Gove, Elizabeth Page, Meriam Newhall and Eliza B. Boyce.

Sandwich - Ruth Davis, Henry R. Davis, Ruth R. Baker, Bessie M. Haines, Susan Howard, Lydia Hussey, Mary A. Tucker, Phebe W. Gifford, Mary Gifford and Barbara Gifford.
Smithfield - Elizabeth G. Osborne, Catherine Comstock, Polly Southwick, Thosby Andrews, Phoebe S. Marsh and Sarah Olaf.

Talmouth - Hannah W. Jones, Lydia Allen, Higail Morton, Maria R. Jones and Lydia E. Jones.

Uxbridge - Deborah B. Hemen, Rachel W. Jones, Jane H. Jones, Theodore S. Pope, Eunice Nichols, Margaret Ratcliffe, North J. Hodges and Rachel Gifford.

Dover - Ann Edwina Long, Hannah Monel, Lydia Hanson, Joanna M. Miller, Higail M. Hansen and Sarah Colby.

Fairfield - Olive Wingo, Chloe Douglas, James Gifford, Lydia Taylor and Hannah Pope.

Who are all present except two, and a satisfactory reason assigned for the absence of one.

A Certificate was read from Farmington Monthly Meeting of Friends, on behalf of our beloved Friend Abnera G. Hemen, who is acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

The Minutes of the last year were now read.

The reading of the London Epistle of last year, which was with weighty counsel and cautionary remarks was instructive and encouraging to us.

An acceptable Epistle was received and read from the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends.

and Epistle has also been read from Indiana Yearly Meeting enclosing the following communication viz.

At Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held at White House in Wayne County, Indiana, by adjournments 10th Month 3rd 1845-

A sealed letter addressed to this Meeting has been presented thereto, which according to the order prescribed in our Discipline has been referred to a few friends to examine, and report whether it be proper to be read in this Meeting.

The said communication accordingly now reports, that they have examined the same, and find it to be an Epistle from a body styling itself "New England Yearly Meeting of Friends", and believing it to be from a body of Separatists then, who have set up the said meeting out of the regular order and usages of our religious society, they think it not proper to be read in, nor accepted by this meeting. Our friends of the Yearly Meeting of New England in their Epistle which has been read in this Meeting, having informed us that a secession of a comparative small number of their members has taken place within their limits, and the said letter not having been sent through our regular correspondents, and being signed by a person known not to be the clerk of the regular Yearly Meeting held on Rhode Island, further evidence is thus afforded that this letter is from the said Separatists; and therefore, it would be a departure from the regular order of our religious society to accept or receive the same. The intelligence of such a separation has been painful to this meeting; believing as we do, that the spirit of misrule and separation is the offspring of the enemy of our peace; and we are concerned to testify against it as being in the preservation of our friends of that Yearly Meeting on the only sure foundation, Christ Jesus, the Rock of ages and in the ancient faith and testimonies of our religious society: and crave for those who have separated, such a manner as will bring them again into the fellowship, and subordination to the Church.

The Clerk is directed to return the said communication in the same channel through which it came, if practicable, with a copy of this minute; also, to send a copy to the Yearly Meeting of

Friends in New England.

The Women's Meeting having received a communication of the same character, adopts the same minute.

Extracted from the minutes of the Meeting, aforesaid and signed on behalf of the same--

The New England Yearly }
Meeting of Women Friends. }
Elijah Coffin }
Maria S. C. Veile } Clerks.

This evidence of the feeling and sympathy of our beloved friends of a distant Yearly Meeting is truly encouraging and confirming to us at this time.

The Representatives were desired to stop at the rise of this sitting to consider of and propose to the Meeting such Friends as they may decide upon to serve the Meeting as Clerks.

Adjourned to the time our next Friends may conclude to meet.

Near the 4th hour Friends convened.

One of the representatives informed that they met and concluded to propose Hannah Good for Clerk and Susan Howard for Assistant Clerk, which being satisfactory to the Meeting, they were appointed to that service the present year.

Through the medium of the records, from our Quarterly Meetings we are furnished with the following information viz--
That Rhode Island Quarterly has united with Swansey Monthly Meeting in appointing Elizabeth Chase to the station of an Elder; Salem Quarterly has united with Wase Monthly Meeting in approving the ministry of Elizabeth Page, and with Salem Monthly Meeting in its appointment of Mary E. Breed an Elder. Sandwich Quarterly has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Phoebe Brown and with Pembroke Mo. Meeting in that of Mary Shepherd to the place of Elders; with New Bedford Monthly Meeting in appointing the public appearances in the ministry of Rhoda Ireland Sweet and with Dartmouth Monthly Meeting in appointing the gift in the ministry of Phoebe D. Safford. Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has also informed that Mary Davis, formerly a member, and Phoebe Safford have been received into our religious Society. Sandwich Monthly Meeting has given information

that Mary & Mary, formerly in the station of minister and
 Elizabeth Childs in that of an Elder have been disowned
 by their Meeting. The account from Smith and Quaker ac-
 quaints us with their having united with Smith's
 Monthly Meeting in approving the ministry of Lydia M.
 Kells, and with the ladies No. 10 in appointing
 Patti Bullock an Elder. A corresponding Quarterly has
 united with Unity Monthly Meeting in appointing
 Margaret R. Cuff to the same station. Our Quarterly
 united with Dover Monthly Meeting in approving the
 public appearances in the ministry of Joseph Vetter
 and Hannah S. Sawyer, and in the appointment of
 Tobias Steader, Ruth Sawyer and Sarah Lightfoot
 to the station of Elders and with Berwick Monthly Meet-
 ing in appointing Joseph and Salome Brackett to
 that station.

Lively and acceptable Epistles from our beloved sisters
 of New York, Baltimore, North Carolina and London
 Yearly Meetings have been received and read, and
 we believe while we are concerned gratefully to
 number our blessings those of kind sympathy
 and regard will be duly appreciated.

The subject of preparing an Epistle for the Yearly
 Meetings claimed the attention of this, and we appointed
 our friends Susan Howland, Rhoda Howland Jr, Mercy K.
 Childs, Elizabeth M. Childs, Sarah A. Childs, Elizabeth A. Childs,
 John C. Childs, William C. Childs, Hannah S. Jones, Elizabeth
 King, Rachel S. Childs, Elizabeth A. Childs, Elizabeth A. Childs,
 Mary S. Childs, Mary C. Childs, Elizabeth A. Childs and John
 Jones a Committee to prepare essays of Epistles, if way should
 open for us, and to send them to the Yearly Meetings.

We have selected our friends Ann B. King, Elizabeth A. Osborne,
 Eunice A. Childs, John C. Childs and John C. Childs to pre-
 pare a summary from the answers to the Epistles and bring
 them before us.

Adjourned to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow.
 3rd day - near the 10th hour friends convened.

The Quire was read, with answers thereto from each of our Quarterly Meetings - and a Summary having been prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose, was read in connexion therewith which was approved and is as follows viz.

1st. Friends are generally careful to attend all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline - Yet most of the accounts notice deficiencies in some in attending to this important duty, more especially those in the middle of the week - on which account some care has been taken, most of the reports notice the omission of some Meetings either in consequence of sickness, or inclement weather - The hour nearly observed - and friends appear to have been mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour.

2nd. There appears to be a good degree of love and unity maintained by most friends - also a care to guard against detraction - yet dissensions in these respects are noticed in most of the answers. No differences appear to exist, where any have arisen, care has been taken.

3rd. We find friends endeavor to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel - to restrain them from wearing pernicious looks and from the usual conversation of the world, and to be exemplars themselves - yet deviations are represented and a greater degree of watchfulness and parental restraint appears to be wanting in some instances. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in friends families.

4th. The use of spirituous liquors appears to have been confined to medicinal purposes - Not entirely clear of participating in amusements not consistent with our discipline - where care has been taken - a good degree of moderation is observed on account of births, marriages and on other occasions.

5th. Care is taken to relieve the necessities of the poor - their children partake of learning to fit them for business - One child is reported to have been placed from among friends, care has been extended in this case.

6th. Most parents and heads of families, with many of the young and unmarried are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage should be conformable to our discipline, yet several instances are noticed of keeping company, and a few of marrying contrary thereto.

7th. That in the several particulars of this query except a few instances are reported of occasionally attending meetings supported by an hiring ministry.

8th Friends appear to be careful to inspect their affairs, settle their accounts, and to be punctual to their promises just in the payment of their debts, and to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

9th. Mostly careful in relation to recording, not entirely clear in regard to certificates.

10th It appears that care has been taken to deal with offenders measurably as queried after - yet some instances of delay are reported in several of the accounts. Judgment has been placed where it appeared necessary, agreeably to Discipline.

The acknowledged deficiencies thus brought to our view produced much weighty exercise, and a tender concern was feelingly expressed that we might individually enter into a close self examination as to what extent we were contributing to the delinquency described by the answers from the various reports to this meeting, and affectionately exhorted to an increased vigilance and attention in the fulfilment of our religious and social duties.

The Report of the Boarding School Committee being read, was satisfactory, and is as follows - viz.

"The Boarding School Committee report that they have endeavored the past year to discharge the duties intrusted to them by the Yearly Meeting in a more interesting and successful manner than in the previous year.

Religious meetings have been regularly held in the house except during the vacations. The average number of people here the past year has been nearly 100. The schools have been commenced at the close of each term by a con-

committee appointed to the purpose, from which reports it appears that the aid and assistance of science and industry in the part of the pupils, and ability and perseverance on that of the teachers, were satisfactory and encouraging. Instruction continues to be given. The languages when desired on the same conditions as heretofore, to wit, five dollars a term additional charge.

The Treasurer and Superintendent's account have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School for the last year has been \$9,534 93, and the expenditures for the year, including a balance from the previous year, \$8,250 00.

We would propose that the terms for board and tuition be the same as last year, to wit, thirty dollars a term for members of the Monthly Association, forty dollars for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and fifty dollars for members of the Monthly Association, both male and female, being furnished as at present. We would also propose that each Monthly Association have the privilege of sending one scholar within five miles of the school, and that they occupy this privilege either in the winter term or in the summer term next succeeding, and the Monthly Meetings are desired, should they deem it best not to send a scholar till the summer term, to inform the Acting Committee at its meeting in the tenth month.

Our friends Amos and Lucia Thompson are engaged as Superintendents, and Charles Stiles, Samuel Austin, and Edward Burr as teachers in the boys' school, and Mary Wharton and F. L. H. Whittier in the girls'. David C. Chase was employed during the winter term as an assistant in the boys' department, and Elizabeth Proctor during the year in the girls'. William Richardson was also employed as a teacher in the boys' school during the summer term of the past year.

Since our last report, the Committee have made several valuable additions to the physical apparatus belonging to the Institution.

Although the number of scholars in the school has been less than in the preceding year, yet the

Committee desire that no more of the children of Friends enjoy the advantages which the Institution affords for a thorough secular education, free from influence from the corrupting influences of the world. The improved condition of schools, both public and private, within the limits of New England, may seem to have diminished the necessity of placing our children in the Boarding School; but we believe that most of these schools will be found to exercise an influence adverse to the simplicity and purity of our Christian profession, and many of them to expose the susceptible minds of our youth to those corrupting associations from which it has ever been the concern of Friends carefully to guard them. The religious concern for the guarded education of our children, which the present report done to the School fund uniformly manifested, we hope will be steadily borne in mind by all those upon whom devolves the parental care and superintendence of the young; that the substantial advantages to be derived from education shall not be sacrificed to a false economy in time to come.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the School Committee,
Boarding School, 5th mo. 8th, 1846. } Jonathan L. Brown, Clerk

While the care thus manifested by the Committee is not in fact to this extent, yet in view of the importance of the cause, and with desires that the greatest amount of good may be dispensed to the members of our religious Society from an Institution established, as we doubt not, in both wisdom and in power, and cherished by friends deeply concerned in the promotion of truth and the preservation and guarded education of the children of our Society, we have believed it right now to appoint our friends Elizabeth Meader, Joanna Dick, Elizabeth Shove, Mary Chace, Sophronia Page, Elizabeth Gove, Ruth W. Baker, Henry K. King, Ann H. King, Mary B. Allen, Rachel H. Holder, Elizabeth A. Osborne,

Sydia C. Jones, Maria B. Jones, Hannah W. Jones, Theodate S. Pope, Deborah B. Warren, Rebecca Baker, Harriet G. Sawyer, Abigail M. Hanson, Ann Elmina Lang, Anne

25p 184p
Resolved, James Gifford & others being to write with a
Committee appointed by our men friends to take the
whole subject under their joint consideration and
if, after careful deliberation, they are prepared to propose
any change, either in the Committee or in the manner
of their discharging the duties of their appointment, or to
make any other suggestion that they apprehend will
promote the interests of the Institution, then are request-
ed to report the same to a future sitting of this Meeting.
Adjourned to the time our men friends may conclude to meet
3rd day afternoon assembled near the 5th hour,
and after a season we trust, of profitable retirement,
and near union & exercise - adjourned to the time
our men friends may meet tomorrow.

4th day morning near the eleventh hour friends met
Essays of Epistles to the Society Meetings of Baltimore
and Dublin were read approved and signed -

Our men friends having perused the minutes
of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year,
an interesting portion of them has been read at this
time, and the continuation thereof deferred until an-
other sitting.

Adjourned to the time our men friends conclude to meet
4th day afternoon - met near the 5th hour.

The reading of the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings
continued from this morning were completed at this
time - a very fair expression of satisfaction gave evi-
dence of the interest of this Meeting in the proceedings
of our brethren, and of unity with their efforts to pro-
mote the welfare of our religious Society.

The Committee presented Essays of Epistles to the Society
Meetings of North Carolina and Louisiana. These being
read and united with were signed by the Clerk.
Adjourned to the time our men friends may meet.
The Meeting for Worship to be held in the morning.

5th day afternoon Friends convened near the 5th hour.

The Committee to whom the subject relating to the Board-
ing ^{School} was referred presented the following report, viz -

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the report of the School Committee, and who were requested to make any suggestions that they might deem important in relation to the welfare of the School and promotion of the best interests of the Institution, report that they have given to the subject their careful deliberation, and are united in making the following propositions to the Yearly Meeting, viz.:

In order to effect a more direct responsibility on the part of those appointed by the Yearly Meeting to superintend the School, and to induce greater efficiency of action in the direction and management of its affairs, we would propose that a general Committee of twelve of each sex should be appointed by the Yearly Meeting, to whom should be committed the care and supervision of the Institution, six of whom (three of each sex) should be released from the charge and six others substituted annually. These six should be eligible to re-appointments after one year, and the others to be continued to be released in rotation from year to year.

It should be understood that this Committee should give their personal attention closely to the School, and should meet there monthly and appoint of their number such as they should deem proper to have the more immediate charge thereof during the recess of this business. They should visit the Schools to know for themselves their state, be attending them during school hours, and to witness instruction, and directing in relation to the process of instruction, and they should judge of the standing and progress of the children, and enter into free intercourse with them and their teachers. They should advise with and direct the Superintendents regarding the external relations and domestic management of the family, and endeavor to feel and exercise an individual interest in the various concerns of the Institution.

It would also propose that the Yearly Meeting should appoint a General Committee on the subject of education,

to be composed of Friends from the several Quarterly Meetings to promote the general education of our children, both in the Boarding School and in Monthly Meeting. Preparative Meeting and family schools, in accordance with the recommendation of the Yearly Meeting. This Committee on Education should meet and consult with the School Committee at the time of our Yearly Meeting at Newport, and also at the School at the time of the examination in the tenth month at the close of the summer term. Both Committees should freely communicate with each other, and thereby endeavor to promote the general religious education of the youth of our Society. The whole to be subject to the criticism and direction of the Yearly Meeting annually.

In behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6th mo. 18th, 1846.

Rowland Greene,
Sophronia Page.

Which was fully considered and united with, and the proposition therein contained adopted by the Meeting, and the same Friends who presented the report were requested to produce to our next sitting the names of suitable Friends to constitute the two Committees proposed to be appointed at this Meeting.

Salem — William H. Chase, Nathan Brud, Moses Huntington, & Newell Ordway, Hiram Chase, Joshua Page.

Elizabeth H. Chase, Mary E. Brud, Elizabeth Gove, Susan S. Brown, Alice Page, Anna Johnson.

Sandwich — George Howland Junr, Charles R. Tucker, Eliza Hooper, Ebenezer King, William Mitchell, Abraham R. Wins, George Abney, George W. Francis, John Macomber, Adna Davis, Calvin Shepherd, Moses ^{2d} Rogers.

Sarah Anthony, Dorcas H. Tucker, Rebecca C. Hosie, Mercy H. King, Sarah Barnard, Lydia Mitchell, Mary Gifford, Phoebe R. Gifford, Barbara Gifford, Rebecca Church, Sarah J. Brown, Mary Shepherd.

Barnmouth — Abraham Winslow, Joseph Bartland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Jones of Mindham, Caleb Jones, Henry M. Minot, Nathan Douglas, Samuel Jones of ^{Wrentham} ~~Barnmouth~~.

Mary Brackett, Susan T. Bartland, Lydia Allen, Sarah H. Pope, Lydia H. Jones, Jane C. Minot, Eunice C. Rich, Maria B. Jones.

Smithfield — Arnold Aldrich 2nd, Thomas Green, Edward Earle, Paul King, John E. Frye, David Babcock.

Catherine Cornstock, Abigail Inman, Ann B. Earle, Elizabeth Southwick, Rachel F. Holder, Sarah C. Frye.

Uxbridge — Moses Taber, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Seth Jones, Joseph Taber, Asa Jones.

Lydia P. Frye, Theodate S. Pope, Mary Cooke, Mary R. Jones, Deborah B. Warren, Jane C. Jones.

Dorchester — Benjamin Fry, Stephen Brude, Walter Sawyer, Benjamin H. Jones, Benjamin Duffum, Peter M. Neal.

Abigail Beede, Sarah Hoag, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, Hannah M. Marshall, Lydia B. Neal.

Fairfield — Joseph Taylor, George Richardson, Allen Sampson, Jacob Pope, Daniel R. Bailey, David Douglas.

John King, Lydia Taylor, Sarah V. Sampson, Lucy J. Hooker, Phoebe Bailey, Chloe Douglas.

— Who are satisfactory to the Vesting, and they are appointed to attend to the general service of promoting the guarded education of our youth, particularly as indicated in the minute made yesterday, proposing such an appointment, and they are requested to report to this Meeting next year.

An Epistle addressed to our subordinate Meetings was read and united with in this Meeting, and the Clerk directed to sign the same on its behalf and to forward it, together with Extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and Transcripts of Epistles received at this time to our Quarterly Meetings.

An endorsement was prepared and signed for our beloved friend Bersheba Herenden who has been acceptably in attendance with us at this time and her company and religious labours have been satisfactory to friends.

The joint Committee of men and women friends presented the following report viz.

To The Yearly Meeting now sitting -

The joint Committee of men and women friends appointed at our last Yearly Meeting to visit such subordinate Meetings as may appear to them to stand in need of assistance, and to afford such counsel and advice as in the meekness and wisdom of the Truth they may be able to afford, and that they should extend an especial care in the assisting of Friends in sustaining our Meetings in different parts of our Yearly Meeting according to our present organization. Report - that we have paid attention to the objects of our appointment - having during the past season visited six of the Quarterly Meetings, as well as a number of Monthly Meetings composing them. Several of our members were present at the Quarterly Meetings of Sandwich, Salem and Dover held in the seventh and eighth months last.

From each of said Quarterly Meetings a few of their members seceded and set up separate Meetings under their names respectively, in which disorderly work they were aided and encouraged by John Wilbur and several others of those who have departed from us and united with him. - Friends of those Meetings respectively having forwarded to this Meeting with their accounts, statements of what took place at their Meetings when the secessions were effected - We can add our testimony to theirs believing that their statements are substantially true and correct.

John Wilbur and several of his followers, also visited

the health, fatigue and small number of friends
present and attempted to interrupt the business
of all of these meetings - But Friends were mercifully
enabled to hold them free from interruption and, are
preserved united bodies and in a great degree of harmony.

In conclusion we can thank fully acknowledge, that
Meth was graciously assisted wherever, we were enabled
to render such assistance and to impart such counsel
as circumstances seemed to require.

Proposed Oct. 1846.

Benjamin Fay

Elizabeth Wing

On behalf of
the Committee.

Which is acceptable and the services of our friends under
this appointment have been satisfactory to this meeting;
and which most carefully has been manifested for our dear
friends who in their respective meetings are yet subjected
to difficulties it has been thought safe to limit the appoint-
ment of a Committee for similar services the present year.

Our former thanks to the Lord of this meeting this impress-
ive language of the psalmist has persuaded the minds of
many amongst ^{us} - "Except the Lord keep the City, the watch-
man waketh but in vain." The quiet and harmony with
which we have been favoured has been cause of humble
gratitude to the giver of all good - and under feelings of
unity one with another and renewed confidence in Him
who hath hitherto helped us - we conclude purposing to
meet at the usual time and place next year.

On behalf of the Meeting,

Harriet Gould San. Clerk.

A. H. Our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 14th to the 19th inclusive of 6th month 1846.

To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

Being again favoured to meet in this our annual assembly, and to partake jointly of the sustaining bread of life through the unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father, who in condescending love has extended his wing of goodness over us, you, dear absent-friends, have been brought very feelingly before us, and we have felt concerned to salute you in the fellowship of the unchanging truth, and to endeavour to convey to you a little of the exercise of this affection, and of the comfort of which we have been at this time permitted to be partakers. We have been made exceedingly to feel, and we crave that it may be vividly impressed upon our hearts, that all our mercies come from God; that He alone can direct us aright, and that it is only as we are engaged to look unto Him, continuing steadfastly in watchfulness unto prayer, that we can witness preservation. Many are the evils that abound in the world — multiplied are the snares and temptations that surround us — and our fervent are our desires that, abiding in lowliness of mind, we may sit at the feet of the blessed Saviour, waiting to hear the gracious words that proceed out of His mouth.

of their parents. We were tenderly and impressively warned
to guard against pernicious reading in the various forms
in which it abounds in the present day; not only of that
reading which is of a light and frivolous character of a gen-
eral nature, but also of that to which of later time we have
been peculiarly exposed, and which is calculated to lessen
our attachment to the Truth, and to prejudice our minds in
relation to those who feel bound, under much suffering,
faithfully to support it, and the precious testimonies and
order of our religious Society. I living among you, I trust
Friends might promote in their families the diligent reading
of the Holy Scriptures with hearts turned unto Him who is
the author of his mercy, and desired to inspire his servants
of old to write them, and who has preserved them for our in-
struction in righteousness unto the present day, and who
condescends to open and apply their precious contents to the
humble seeking mind. We were interestingly cited to our individ-
ual experience, when, in the day of our espousals, we were
visited by the Spirit of the Lord, and in tenderness before Him
we entered into holy covenant to serve Him, and were
earnestly entreated to yield unreservedly to the requirements
of truth, that He who has begun a good work in our hearts
may carry it on until the day of Jesus Christ. The young
were affectionately encouraged to look confidently unto
the Lord for preservation and for strength, that in the end
they may wear a crown of life.

And, dear young Friends, who are situated, under the
feelings of constraining love, you are brought very near to
us, and we are drawn fervently to exhort you to beware of
the whisperings of our subtle foes, who would lead you to
believe it may be allowable for you for the present to
turn aside from the safe and narrow way to which in
after time you can readily return, or who would insin-
uate that the safe and narrow path is too hard and difficult
to be followed. The longer you deviate from this path, the more
difficult will it be to return. The longer you are in the
through which we are to pass, the more difficult will it be to

ever restored to the safe enclosure. Submit now in the morning of your days, we entreat you, to the circumlocution, power of truth. An early sacrifice is acceptable unto the Lord, and you are witnesses, as you yield to the requirements of duty, that the will of Jesus is done, and his burden light - that the words of wisdom are pleasantness and all his paths are peace.

Finally, dear friends, of every age, may be humbled under a sense of the goodness of our Heavenly Father - may we rejoice with trembling in contemplating the provisions of his mercy in Christ Jesus our Saviour. May we subornit ourselves in simplicity unto the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the will of the Father and the Son, and in the meekness of wisdom before men, show forth in all our lives and conversation that we are the humble followers of a meek and crucified Saviour.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Yearly Meeting
Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.
Hannah Gould Junr. Clerk.

Extracts from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting.
The love of our Heavenly Father hath been extended to us in the several things of this Yearly Meeting, and in the discourse of the Word, and under the influence of our dear absent sisters have been remembered with peculiar interest and tender regard. Harmony and unity have prevailed in transacting the business that has come before us, and the union of exercise, and concern for the advancement of the cause of Truth and Righteousness has been cause of thankfulness to Him, who rules in the hearts of his devoted children.

The deficiencies acknowledged in the answers to the Queries, pointing out in the utterance of our prayers, and in our exercised much painful exercise in the minds of those who serve in the active witness of our dear friends, of every age and class, in true vital Christianity: and we have believed that a want of engagement in the performance of this duty is the occasion of much weakness, that our growth in grace is retarded thereby, and has been sustained both in an

individual sense as well as in the Church, inasmuch as we must admit that the want of faithfulness in our members reflects in a more or less degree on the whole body. Let it then be our care to attend all our meetings, as a means of renewing our strength, abstracting our thoughts from the incumbrances of worldly affairs, and habituating our minds to a serious meditation on heavenly things. For it may be observed that where remissness in this respect is guilty to, it opens a door for dissensions in other things, and introduces into such liberties as Truth and its guidance do not warrant.

We are also at this time fully confirmed of the worth of that unity which distinguished the disciples of Christ. This is Love, and we are assured that those who live in it will have about them that precious badge of discipleship, and for the inward and spiritual bond, many hearts have been raised in fervent aspiration to the source of every good and every perfect gift.

Such impressive counsel has been given in regard to the early and constant care of parents in the education of their children; that they may, by waiting upon the Lord for direction be enabled to train their lips in His word and admonition, endeavouring to imbue their minds with a love of retirement, the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and such profitable books as would preserve them from the corrupting influence of those publications which so abound in the present day. We are, therefore, to train that much may be done to avert this by frequently reading with them such portions of the sacred volume as relate to the essential doctrines and precepts of the Christian Religion, and that method in waiting upon the Father of mercies, may become instrumental in opening the understanding of the young children, and under the influence of divine grace and wisdom, press upon them closely to practice what they read.

What we are favored to observe in many a departure from the way of righteousness, and from the plainness of habit and simplicity of speech which were so characteristic in our worthy fathers, and also their solid deport-

principles they professed might not suffer by their means: we have desired that our friends of every age might be actuated by a like holy engagement of mind.

We are persuaded that a due regard to this emphatic precept of our dear Redeemer - "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness" - which it is our duty to observe, would restrain and preserve us from the evils of the world, the evils of the flesh, and enable us faithfully to fulfil the various duties of life: that it would sustain us in every trial, and under every disposition allotted us by infinite wisdom, thus should be witness an increased refinement, and more and more experience in union with Christ. Though it may be our lot to share the fellowship of His sufferings, yet we shall also be permitted to partake of that consolation that aboundeth by Him, that our rejoicing may be the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity we have had our conversation in the world.

In behalf of the Meeting

1

Annals of the Meeting

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Beloved Sisters,

We have cause gratefully to commemorate the goodness and mercy of Israel's Shepherd, who hath condescended to cheer and animate our minds under the trials and afflictions that have been permitted to assail us - wherein we have witnessed the effects of that Spirit which scatters in Jacob and divides in Israel. And renewedly have we been made sensible of the continued necessity of observing the injunction of our blessed Lord to watch and pray continually.

In being permitted to assemble together at this time though in much poverty and weakness we are constrained to acknowledge the continued goodness of our Heavenly Father by which we have been strengthened and permitted to realize the distillings of heavenly dew by which we have been refreshed, and enabled to move forward with great unanimity

of feeling in the transaction of the various concerns of the Church that have come before us.

The state of Society as spread before us at this time, evinces a want of deep indwelling and of watchfulness unto prayer, yet we are encouraged to believe that an increased concern is felt to be found walking by the same rule, and missing the same thing, and as this concern is abode in we trust that it will lead to greater watchfulness, and to increased faithfulness in the support of our Christian discipline.

Our Yearly Meeting, has been large, many of our dear friends in the meridian and morning of life are in attendance, whose solid deportment has been a strength to their elder sisters, encouraging them to believe that under the qualifying influence of the Spirit of Truth there will be raised up a succession of standard bearers, who may become valiants in their day for the support of our various Christian testimonies.

Your Epistle of last year, beloved sisters, with the minute accompanying it was truly acceptable to us amid the trials that have been permitted to attend us your sympathy and fellow feeling have been a source of life unto us, and we have been brought renewedly to prize that Christian fellowship which exists between those who are true members of the one Church, who are engaged for the support of the one cause, and who in sincerity and truthfulness for its promotion — may this sympathy of feeling wherein we can rejoice or suffer continue to exist, that in the future there may be great one another in love, and in the fellowship of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We unite with you in the desire that those who have separated themselves from the body may be brought to experience that change which will restore them acceptably to the Church, whereby the bond of Christian union may be renewed in the unchangeable Truth.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

In being permitted to meet again in a Yearly Meeting capacity we have been favoured to witness the canopy of divine love over us, to the strength and comfort of our often discouraged and deeply tried minds, and it is we trust under the humbling influence of the Father's love that unites in gospel fellowship the living members of the true Church, every where, that we are drawn to address you dear friends, believing that as we through watchfulness unto prayer are favoured to keep our habitations in the Truth we may profitably offer the language of encouragement one unto another - a fresh evidence hereof was felt on the reading of several truly acceptable Epistles from our beloved sisters of different Yearly Meetings. It is animating to believe that many continue engaged to maintain our Christian principles and testimonies agreeably to the counsel and doctrine of Him who said - "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."

We feel tenderly for those in remote situations who in attending their religious meetings, being few in number, often feel their minds clothed with weakness - we desire that these with you and with us, may renew their trust in Him who giveth power to the faint, and increaseth the strength of those who have no might of their own. Many there are who in their silent waiting upon the Lord have realized that He hath so regarded their low estate as to refresh their souls by the renewed incomes of His love.

We much desire our mutual advancement in every good word and work, that while we maintain a deep concern to support the doctrines and testimonies of the Gospel, as promulgated by our worthy predecessors - we may experience the renewing of the Holy Spirit, agreeably to apostolic testimony - "He saveth us by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." May we seek more earnestly to be clothed upon by the Spirit and power of Jesus, in all our attempts to serve Him.

Our interest has not diminished for the suffering Aborigines

of our Country - nor the oppressed descendants of the African race: and our prayers at seasons, we trust ascend unto the Lord on their behalf, that He would incline the hearts of the rulers of the Nation to promote their freedom.

Finally dear sisters, we conclude in the words of the Apostle, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand, having your loins girt about with Truth."

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and we have been enabled to attend to the important concerns of Society that have come before us in much unanimity of feeling.

In love we remain your friends -

On behalf and by direction of the Meeting,

Hannah Gould Secy & Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Beloved friends,

On Meeting in this our Annual Assembly and in presenting ourselves before the Lord, we have been humbled under a sense of His continued goodness, love and mercy unto us: and feeling our minds drawn to address you at this time, we desire that the spring of communication between us may be preserved in that life, which answers unto life; aware that all our efforts are unavailing without the seasoning virtue of that divine Spirit, which enables us to believe in the testimony of our Holy Redeemer, who said, "I am the Vine, ye are the branches; he that abideth in me and I in him the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." May we all dear friends, through watchfulness unto prayer, so abide in Him that our fruits may be unto His Father the end whereof is everlasting life. In order to this we have need often to recur to the ground of our high profession, and to the principles and testimonies which our forefathers maintained under the direction of the Holy Head: and as we dwell under the influence of the same Spirit of meekness, and of love, the Standard of Truth will be sustained with dignity and consistency, to the encouragement of many in the different classes of Society, whom we trust are at seasons

desire the spreading of the Gospel; peace & salvation; that peace may be within our walls and prosperity within our palaces.

Is there not cause of fear that some are ready to stumble at the very threshold for want of a more perfect example in those who stand as leaders of the people? and are thereby discouraged from coming up in the full obedience of faith to the help of the Lord against the mighty. May we all dear friends be encouraged in our different allotments to ask wisdom of God whose foundation standeth sure; having this seal - the Lord knoweth them that are His.

May the burthen bearers with you and with us, be renewedly strengthened to fill up their measure of suffering and of usefulness for the body's sake, which is the Church. And may our beloved young friends be induced to step forward in the pathway of obedience and dedication to the Lord, that their hearts may be established with grace, and they strengthened to keep united to those who feel bound to maintain the same old testimony of Truth - that in the conclusion we may all be enabled to adopt this language - I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song, He also has become my salvation.

We can gratefully acknowledge that during the sittings of this Society Meeting, which has been large, we have been favoured to witness the cementing influence of that Love that gathereth into the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace, under the influence of which we have been enabled to attend to the concerns of Society that have come before us in harmony and unity.

With desire that grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied to us all, through the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord - we remain your friends

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Junr Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Sisters,

It is under a lively sense of the value of Christian sympathy that we acknowledge the reception of your Epistle of last year; and we are comforted in the renewed conviction that as we are concerned to abide faithful to Christ the glorified Head of the Church - as living members of the body, our fellowship one with another will be maintained.

This Yearly Meeting is largely attended, and we have cause reverently to commemorate the extension of Divine regard towards us, in producing an harmonious exercise for the maintenance of those Christian testimonies which as a people we have been called to bear - and we fervently desire that through continual watching unto prayer we may be strengthened to support in their original purity the doctrines ever held by this religious Society, in the belief that they are founded upon the unchangeable Truths.

We feel dear sisters, that we are called upon at this time to sing of mercy and of judgment; and to praise the adorable name of Jesus Christ, who hath fulfilled His gracious promise unto those, who trust ^{ing} in Him, have not been confounded - And although He hath seen meet to visit us as a Refiner with fire, yet hath He graciously condescended to sustain and support through our various trials. The Name of the Lord is a strong tower - the righteous runneth into it and are safe. May we all be engaged to keep near to Him, that in His own time we may know a moving power in His strength, and realize His mercy and truth to go before us and the glory of the Lord to be our reward.

Our solicitude for the suppression of Slavery continues undiminished and we desire to be ever engaged to embrace every right measure in labour on behalf of the oppressed, both among the descendants of Africa, and the Aborigines of our Country.

To the holy care and keeping of Israel's Shepherd we commend you with ourselves, and in the bonds of the Spirit remaining your affectionate Sisters. In behalf and in direction of the Meeting
"Thine ever faithful Friend"
Elizabeth Gould

a present necessity may be felt in copying the Scripture injunction - "Be ye not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds; that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

May the dear young friends with you and us be prevented upon to turn from the vanities of a delusive world, and be willing to bear the yoke of our dear Redeemer in their youth, sitting alone and keeping silence before the Lord, who will bless those at seasons with His loving presence, and enable to testify in the language of the Psalmist's prayer - "Cries say in thy courts is better than a thousand - I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of Wickedness" - For the Lord is a sun and a shield, the Lord will give grace and glory, no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

The subject of the abolition of slavery is one of deep interest - as is also the condition of the Aborigines of our country - and we must ever share in every right showing for their relief - both in active exertions on their behalf, and in fervent intercession at the throne of grace.

Thine, dear Sisters, may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all - Amen,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting)

Hannah Gould Jun^r. Clerk.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear friends,

We are ever anxious to meet in a friendly & happy society, many minds have had time to commemorate in grateful acknowledgments, that the arm of ancient goodness hath in tender mercy been extended in the encouragement of the exercised travellers Lion-ward. Though it is much feared that we are unable to reply to your acceptable "histories" the presents month past we desire that our minds may be clothed with that "humble" humility which will enable us beloved sisters, to salute you in that language that is so dear to the heart, sensibly feeling that

without a right purification we cannot reach that precious witness, which is as face answering to face in a glass.

May the blessed youth, with you and us, be increasingly engaged to look for that holiness and purity that will lead them to commune with their own hearts, and in the language of the prophet to say one unto another, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. Henceforth our earnest in the work of regeneration will be extended to our ^{young} generation.

This we cannot do without both here large, many of our beloved young friends are in attendance, many of whom have conversed much interestingly and usefully of Christ with those whose minds have been tenderly exercised for the promotion of the cause of righteousness, and the right order and discipline of the discipline of our Society. The unity and harmony that have prevailed in this meeting the weighty concerns that have come before us have been sources of thankfulness to the Holy Spirit of the Father, that we are a united people, and men who will rather be pleased to enlarge the borders of Zion to the glory, honour and praise of his great Name.

May the Lord send us a plentifully of his servants, who will be faithful, zealous, and every day be engaged to labour to bring the heathen into the Christian religion, and to deliver them from bondage.

With your dear sisters we hope that the Society of Home for our dear friends education, and domestic education, and our Boarding School may now and more increase, with the blessing of the Lord. Let the Father send many more, and to make every man a sacrifice, that your beloved of Springfield may have the advantage of an education which will greatly promote their salvation.

As the blessing of the Father be with you, and your dear friends, and the blessing of the Father be with you, and your dear friends.

1841
The Boston Society for the Relief of the Colored People of the South
Dear friends,

We have at this time a difficulty to overcome before the
meeting, in a matter of some importance, and we are willing as
to our part to the result, and we are willing as we
thought, to feel that this business is settled. Although
difficult, we are prepared to go on, and the anxiety of many
of our friends, we are comforted in believing there is no reason
of discouragement to the faithful burden bearers, wherever they
may be found - nor for the little ones, who, in humility and
self abasement are seeking to be taught of the Lord, for under
His divine guidance there will be wisdom to guide them
in the path way of obedience towards that "City of the
future and make the Lord's will is.

We have been present during the several sittings of this
Meeting to discuss the important concerns of the Society in such
a manner as to be acceptable to all. The spirit of the month last
has been received and read, and your benevolent for us in our
various allotments has afforded consolation and encouragement
to many minds, and we have been renewed to service that
these sisterly communications strengthen the bonds of Christian
fellowship. Our meeting has been large, and we trust, by
the number of assemblies - and while we rejoice that the spirit
which scattereth has been permitted to enter our borders - we are
cheered by the consoling evidence that an increasing concern
is felt by many in younger life to unite in endeavoring to
promote the cause of truth and righteousness. We sincerely
desire that this number with you and us may increase, and that
they may be yielding obedience to the requirements of duty, and
the truth of the encouraging language of the "H. S. C. No. 1", through
this prophet - "Bring ye all the tribes into the Lord's house, that
they may be made his name house, and prove me now hereunto,
saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open to you the windows of
heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room
enough to receive it."

With a sisterly love we are your friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting

Hannah Gould & Clark.

To Dublin Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Sisters,

How acceptable Epistle of last year was read in this Meeting, greatly to our comfort and encouragement, renewing the feeling conviction that this our epistolary intercourse has its origin in the truth, and is a means of strengthening the bond of Christian fellowship with our absent friends, however widely separated and little known as to the outward, and may we not reasonably believe as to the promotion of the best interests of Society in humble dependence upon Him who has been mindful of us from generation to generation and given us bread in our distress. We thankfully acknowledge that in tender love we are drawn to greet you in that feeling which both allows and remains to be the badge of disinterestedness in the warmest of life.

Although under peculiar discouragement we have come up to this our Annual Assembly, we have cause for the tribute of gratitude and praise that we have in measure experienced the presence of Him who is our holy High priest, touched with a feeling of our infirmities, and knows how to administer to our infirmities necessities, when in living faith and humble dependence we wait upon Him for renewed ability to do His will.

While we lament that the spirit which scath with hath entered our borders, and the loss sustained by want of abiding under the shadow of the Cross which redeems and sets us free from the law of sin and death - and through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus our Lord giveth the victory, to the praise and exaltation of His great name - we have yet to acknowledge that the present has been a season of divine favour, and the immediate help that has been granted has cemented and gathered us into that unity in which there is strength, and under this influence we have been enabled to transact the business that has come before us in much harmony. May those with you and us, in the morning and meridian of life be prevailed upon to bow under the transforming power of the love of God, whereby the virtue of Divine grace is manifested to the glory of our

9. New England Quarterly Meeting of Women Friends held at Newport, by adjournments from the 13th to the 18th inclusive of 6th month 1847.

Second day the 14th agreeable to the adjournment of last year Friends met, and being furnished with accounts from our respective Quarterly Meetings the representatives therein named to attend this Meeting are as follow -

Rhode Island - Susanna Dick, Lydia C. Smith, Elizabeth Mader, Mary Shove, Elizabeth Wing, Elizabeth Dickerson, and Susan Holt.

Salem - Sophronia Page, Mary Chase, Alice Page, Mary C. Brown, Elizabeth Page, Eliza B. Boyer, and Hyman D. Brand.

Sandwich - Susan Scotland, Ruth Davis, Ruth H. Baker, Mary Chapman, John R. Cifford, Lydia Hanson, and Ann Macomber.

Smithfield - Mary W. Allen, Ruth Cook, Mary C. Barrett, Lydia W. Kelley, William Morris, and Ruth Fay. Portsmouth - Carrie J. Root, Rebecca B. Woodcock, Lucy Douglas, Jane C. Minot and Molly Stevens.

Casselsborough - Rachel W. Nichols, Martha H. Stiles, Hannah Cole, Eunice Jones, Deane B. Hanson and Mary T. Stackpole.

Dover - Hannah G. Sawyer, Hannah Russell, Abigail H. Hanson, Ruth Rogers, and S. Tuttle.

Thimble - Chloe Douglas, Lydia Pope, Marcia P. Hawkes and Eliza M. Hall - who being called

are all present excepting three - for the non-attendance of two, satisfactory reasons were given.

Through the mediation of the records we are informed that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Greenwich Monthly Meeting in appointing Catherine C. Earle to the place of an Elder - Salem Quarterly has united with Ware Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Mary Weston to the same station.

And our Quarterly is united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in appointing as an Elder, David R. Smith.

Dorchester Quarterly united with Limerington Monthly
meeting in appointing to the same service Eliza Holland
and Mary Cobb. Dorchester Quarterly. Meeting with
Dorchester Monthly Meeting in the appointment of
Abigail C. Lippard and this old Quarterly with Limerington
Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Harriet Banks
to the same station and in approving the ⁱⁿ of the
ministry of Elizabeth Carr.

A certificate on behalf of our friend Lydia Dean
from Dorchester Quarterly. Meeting. Meeting. Meeting.
and is signed by Dorchester Quarterly. Meeting. Meeting.
together with a copy of a minute from our Monthly
Meeting for Cynthia Knowles companion to Lydia Dean.
Also a certificate on behalf of our friend Phoebe C. Harris
from Redstone Monthly Meeting, and signed by Redstone
Quarterly Meeting, Fayette Co. Pennsylvania - These being
read are satisfactory to the above named friends with a
number of others from neighbouring Yearly Meetings are
acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

We appoint our friends Rhoda Cantow and sister Lydia Thompson,
Phoebe K. Bifford and Lydia K. Kelly to prepare a Summary
from the answers to the Queries, and present when ready.

Epistles from our beloved sisters of the Yearly Meetings
of London and America have been read, and these loving
tokens of regard and sympathy have been comforting
and animating.

We adjourn to the time our own friends may meet -
Near the 4th hour friends again met.

One of the representatives informed that they had conferred
together, and were united in proposing Hannah Boutwell
for Clerk, and Susan Howland assistant Clerk to this
meeting for this nomination being satisfactory to the
meeting they are appointed to those stations.

We have received Epistles from the Yearly Meetings of
both America, New York and Ohio which have been read
to our instruction and comfort. And we have appointed
our friends Mary M. Allen, Elizabeth M. Allen, Sophronia Page,
Lydia K. Kelly, Charlotte C. Page, William M. Allen, and

Mrs. Elizabeth Huxton, Emma L. L. L., Lydia L. L.,
 Rhoda L. L., Elizabeth L. L., Phoebe L. L.,
 Hannah T. L., Ruth H. Baker, Susan Howland, Olive L.
 Oliver, Elizabeth Peckham, Abigail M. Hanson, Lydia
 Thompson, John L. L., Mrs. L. L., and
 a committee to take into consideration the subject of
 addressing our beloved sisters of other Yearly Meetings,
 and if we should deem it proper to do so, we will
 meet them at this meeting.

Certificates were presented on behalf of our beloved
 friend Benjamin L. L. from the Yearly Meeting
 held at Bradford, in the County of York, England, held
 the 10th of 1st month - from York Quarterly Meeting held
 at Leeds the 25 & 26th of 3rd month - and from the Meeting
 of Ministers and Elders held in London on the 18th, 19th
 and 20th of 5th month of the same year - also on behalf of
 our dear friend ~~Bernard~~ Robert Lindsey from Brig-
 house Monthly Meeting held the 18th & 19th mo. endorsed on
 by York Quarterly Meeting held the 23rd of 9th mo. - with one
 from the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London
 the 12th of 10th mo. 1846 These all express the warm sympa-
 thy, unity and feeling of their respective Meetings
 with our beloved friends in the extensive and ar-
 duous prospect before them. These certificates were
 read to our satisfaction, and we trust humble
 gratitude is the clothing of our minds for the
 condescension of Him, who ^{inclined} the hearts of these
 his messengers, to visit us in Gospel love at this time.
 They being now acceptably with us in attendance
 of the Yearly Meeting.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet.
 3rd day met near the ¹⁰th hour.

The Queries, with answers from each of our Quar-
 terly meetings were read, in connection with a
 Summary collected therefrom, which was satisfac-
 tory to the Meeting and is as follows. viz.

Answer 1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and
 discipline have been kept up and attended by most

of our members - a few small Meetings are excepted, the non-attendance of which was mostly occasioned by indisposition and inclemency of the weather - yet there is an apparent remissness with some in attention to this important duty, particularly in the middle of the week. Salem and Dover Quarterly Meetings inform that some of their members continue to attend the Meetings of the Seceders held under our names - on which account some care has been taken. The hour nearly observed, and friends are mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour when assembled. 2nd - Love and unity generally maintained amongst us; yet not so fully by some, as truth requires. Most friends are careful to guard against detraction. Care has been taken to end differences when they have arisen. 3rd Many Friends are concerned to bring up those under their direction as queried, to discourage their reading pernicious books, and from the corrupt conversation of the world; and endeavour to be exemplary herein themselves - yet a want of concern for the support of our testimony in these respects is apparent. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

4th Clear as far as appears in the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicine. Not entirely clear of attending places of public resort. Moderation is observed on the account of births, marriages, and on other occasions.

5th - The circumstances of the poor are inspected and their necessities relieved. Their children partake of learning. None placed from among Friends.

6th. Many parents and heads of families, also of the young and unmarried are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline. When deviations have occurred care has been extended. Several instances of keeping company contrary to discipline are reported.

7th We think our testimonies are generally maintained with regard to the several parts of this query - excepting one instance - "Not entirely clear of the payment of Priests' wages."

8th Friends are generally careful to inspect their affairs and to settle their accounts are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts, and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

9th Mostly careful as to recording: some deficiency in regard to recording is mentioned as under notice.

10th There is a care to deal with offenders, in a measure of the Spirit guided after, yet not always without delay - judgment placed where it has appeared necessary according to our discipline.

A report of the Committee having charge of the Boarding School was read, is satisfactory to Friends, and is as follows - viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to have the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, report, that they have during the past year given attention to their appointment, and are encouraged to believe, that the Institution continues to be useful.

The average number of scholars has been eighty five, viz: forty two males and forty three females.

Our friends Oliver and Lydia Thompson, have acceptably served as Superintendents during the year ending with the last winter term; and Charles Atherton, Samuel Austin and Edward B. May, have been engaged as teachers in the 'Boys' school', and Mary Atherton and Gertrude E. Whillier as teachers in that of the girls' for the same time. Elizabeth Prosser has also been an assistant teacher in the girls' school during the winter term.

The Committee having the honor to be released at the end of the last winter term, and the Committee thinking the Institution would benefit from an arrangement which would unite with the general care and oversight of the Institution as Superintendents,

are ~~to~~ that of taking a general government and direction of the schools, and imparting literary instruction therein to such extent as may be consistent with the other duties of Superintendents. We have engaged our friends Silas Cornwell and Sarah M. Cornell of Rochester, New York, to come into the institution in that capacity, and assume those duties.

Charles Atherton, Edward G. Hoag, and Richard Dame, are engaged as assistant teachers in the boys' school, (the latter giving instruction in the languages) and Frederick Whittier and Sarah Alice Cornell, as assistant teachers in the girls' school, for a part or the whole of the present year.

As our friends Silas and Sarah M. Cornell could not consistently with their previous engagements, commence their connection with the Institution until the present time, the former Superintendents kindly consented to remain, temporarily, after their previous engagement expired — and the former arrangements in the schools have mostly been continued since the commencement of the present term.

The change of Superintendents and the new arrangements with respect to the principal charge of the school is now about to take place, and the friends who have for several years occupied the station of Superintendents being about to leave, seems a fitting occasion to express for their encouragement, the satisfaction of the Committee with their labours. These labours were increased during the latter part of last year, by more than usual indisposition among the scholars.

Meetings for worship have been regularly held in the House, except during the vacations, and harmony has prevailed.

On the day of Providence Dispensary Meeting, the Winter term of the school have been ~~with~~ in accordance with the consent of the Yearly Meeting last year.

Examinations of the scholars by the Committee, at the close of each term, have been made, as had heretofore been practised,

and the department and proficiency of the scholars have been generally satisfactory, evincing a good degree of aptitude and diligence on the part of the pupils, and judiciousness on the part of the teachers.

The accounts of the ^{Treasurer and} Superintendent have been examined and settled. By these accounts it appears, that the income of the school for the year ending with the last winter term, has been \$10,836.07, and the expenditures \$12,135.54, the expenditures having exceeded the receipts by the sum of \$1300.47. Seven hundred dollars of this excess arises from the payment within the year of a demand against the Institution of several years standing.

The amount of expenditures exceeding the income, has been supplied from the balance on hand at the commencement of the year; and being deducted therefrom, leaves a balance on hand at the close of the last term, of \$1858.05.

We would propose that the price of board and tuition be continued the same as last year, viz: Thirty dollars per term for members of our Yearly Meeting, forty five dollars for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and five dollars for those of other Yearly Meetings, payable in advance. Books and Stationery being furnished as at present.

We would also propose, that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar free of expense for one term, the same to be occupied either in the next winter or the succeeding summer term, at the discretion of the Monthly Meeting. The several Monthly Meetings to notify the Committee at their meetings in the 1st month of their convenience, in case they propose to occupy the privilege in the summer term.

The Committee feel it right to express their belief, that there are advantages to be derived to the youth of our Society at the school, which should serve as an encouragement to friends to place their children there, that they may acquire a guarded religious education, free from many of the temptations to which they are necessarily exposed in more mixed establishments. We are desirous that the friends of the cause should be encouraged to place their children there.

little or no control.

And we would earnestly press upon Friends the importance to the Society of a continued individual interest in the welfare of the Institution, in whose endowment & management such lively concern has been manifested by valuable Friends who are now gathered to their rest.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee,
Stephen A. Chase, Clerk.

Providence, 6th month 1st 1847.

As the time of service of three of the members of the School Committee appointed last year will expire at the present time, our friends Ann Hopkins, Susan Ann Buffum, Mary Chase, Olive C. Oliver, Betsy P. Wood, Rhoda Howland & Ruth Carl, Phoebe S. Hark, Jane Kinick, Patience R. Winslow, Thesate S. Pope, Lavinia Fry, Harriet L. Sawyer, Sarah D. Tuttle, Lydia Pope and Chloe Douglas are desirous to propose to a future sitting of this meeting, the names of three friends to serve on the School Committee, in the place of the three who stand first on the list last year: and to consider other subjects connected with the school.

We adjourn to the time our next friends may conclude to meet.
Afternoon - convened near the 4th hour.

A Certificate was read on behalf of our dear friend Charles Howland, from the Monthly Meeting of Friends at Kearsie Michigan, held the 10th of 3rd mo. and endorsed by Address Quarterly Meeting held 3rd mo. 24th 1847. Charles Howland being acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

A minute from Redstone Monthly Meeting of Friends held the 31st of 10th mo. 1836 - on behalf of our friend Eli Haines, he attending this Meeting as companion to his wife Phoebe Haines. We adjourn to the time our next friends meet tomorrow 4th day morning meet near the 11th hour.

A very lively and just Memorial concerning our beloved friend Mrs. Nathan deceased, from Smithfield's Monthly Meeting of Friends has been read at this time and a solemn and precious covering prevailed over the meeting attended with an earnest solicitude that her example and the lessons of her devoted life thus presented to our view may stimulate

us who remain to walk by the same rule and mend the same thing. Minutes read as the following Christ.

Extracts of Christies to the Liberty Meetings of London, London, and, Baltimore and New York were read, and being approved by the Meeting were signed on its behalf by the Clerk.

Adjourned to the hour our men friends may meet.
 & day afternoon assembled near the 5th hour

A Testimony of Grace Monthly Meeting's Friends, endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend John Paige has been read at this time. Also one from Monthly Meeting, and approved by Cassalborough Quarterly Meeting, on behalf of our beloved friend Phoebe R. Baker, wife of Joshua Baker. These interesting memorials of our departed friends are fraught with instructions, and calculated to encourage every slave amongst us to choose the path of humble dedication as leading to peace in this life, and confidence in the belief of a happy immortality.

The London printed Christies containing wisely counsel and salutary caution has been read to our comfort and edification.

Adjourned to the time our men friends may meet.

At the 4th hour friends assembled.

Propositions from Cassalborough and Fairfield Quarterly Meetings were brought up in their accounts for a change in the time of holding their Meetings, more convenient to their members than heretofore held - which were considered and rejected with in this and the mens' Meeting, and those Meetings are to be held as follows: That Fairfield Quarterly Meeting be held in future at Fairfield in the 11th and 5th months, and at Hallowell in the 9th and 2nd months, and that the Quarterly Meeting in the 5th month be held on the fourth day of the same week in which it is now held, and that Cassalborough Quarterly Meeting in the 5th month be held on the 6th day of the same week in which it is now held.

A selection from the minutes of the Meetings for the past year was read, and was interesting to Friends.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration subjects connected with the Boarding School, report, made the following report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration subjects connected with the Boarding School, report,

That in their judgment usefulness might result from admitting into the Boarding School, in some special cases, children who are not members of our Society, who are under the care of Friends, and brought up as such. The compensation to be \$45 per term. We propose the following Friends in the place of those whose time of service has expired according to the regulations adopted at our last yearly Meeting viz: Elizabeth King, Phoebe K. Lifford and Ann B. Earle* which is satisfactory - and our friends above named are appointed on the part of this Meeting in addition to those now under appointment viz: Lydia Congdon, Sophronia Page, Susan Howland, Fanna Pick, Eunice Metcalf, Susan Eliza Lamy, Eliza A. Osborne, Mary Anne, Mary W. Allen, Elizabeth King, Phoebe K. Lifford, and Ann B. Earle to superintend the various concerns of our Boarding School at Providence, with the usual powers confided by this Meeting to the School Committee, and they are requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee on education appointed last year made the following report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee on the Subject of Education, appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, report,

That they have endeavored to attend to the duties of their appointment, and have met at the time and place specified viz: at the School House in Providence in the 12th month last, and at this place during the present week.

* On behalf of the Committee - Samuel Jones.

Ruth Earle

At the Meeting in the 10th month last, several of the members of this Committee met with the School Committee, and were present at the examination of the schools, with which they were well satisfied; and we have felt concerned to encourage our dear friends to avail themselves of the privilege of sending their children to the schools, believing that they may enjoy benefits there, that they cannot obtain in mixed schools.

From reports received during the present week from different sections of the Yearly Meeting, we are encouraged to believe that an increasing interest is generally felt among Friends for the guarded education of their children.

The following statistical information, collected in accordance with a proposition adopted in the 10th month last, containing returns from all the Monthly Meetings in the Yearly Meeting except four, was also received at this time

No. of children between the ages of 4 and 10, —	1308
" " " " " " 10 and 20, —	551
" Monthly Meeting Schools,	1
" Preparative "	3
" Family Schools,	6
" Children attending Friends Schools exclusively as such,	171
" Friends children attending mixed schools,	1443

The minutes of the School Committee, in the last year having been laid before us, both at this and the Meeting in the 10th month last, were read, and an interchange of thought and feeling was freely entered into. The faithfulness of that Committee in their arduous duties, as manifested by the reading of the minutes, has been very satisfactory to us, and we have much desired their encouragement herein.

Many very pertinent remarks were made by members both of this and of the School Committee, serving upon Friends the responsibility which they are under, of endeavouring to give their children a guarded religious education at home, in order to counterbalance the

the many evils resulting from so large a proportion of our children attending mixed schools.

Under the new and untoward situation in which they found themselves placed, the Committee have not accomplished as much as they could have desired, but hope that usefulness will result from their labours.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee,
Geo. Howland, Secy., Clerk.

Newport, 6th month 16th 1847.

— which is acceptable to the Meeting; and the same Committee are reappointed to serve another year, with the exception of Rachel F. Holder removed by death this vacancy is supplied by the appointment of Ruth Fry and Ruth Earle, Abigail H. Kirby and Hannah Gould & are appointed to take the places of Elizabeth Henry, Phoebe R. Gifford, and Ann B. Earle - now appointed on the School Committee; and they are encouraged to continue to attend to the concerns of this Meeting in their appointment and report next year.

An essay of an Epistle to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting was read, approved and signed by the Clerk.

Adjourned to the time our dear friends may meet. Sixth day morning, the 18th Friends convened at the 10th hour. The representatives were called and all present except two for the absence of these satisfactory reasons were given.

Endorsements were prepared to place on the Certificates of our dear friends who are with us from other Yearly Meetings which being approved the clerk was directed to insert them on the Certificates respectively and to sign them on behalf of the Meeting.

Our dear friends laid before us some proposed changes suggested by the Meeting for Sufferings in our Discipline on the subject of marriage, the subject was deliberately considered, and being united with are adopted by this Meeting as its Discipline in this respect; and the Clerk is directed to place the same upon our records, and they are to be transmitted to our Quarterly and Yearly meetings - our dear friends uniting herein, and the

several Meetings are desired to place the same in our Book of Disciplines.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island in the 1st month 1847, the following is adopted as our Discipline on the subject of Marriages.

It is advised, that parents exercise a religious care in watching over their children, and endeavour to guard them against improper or unequal connections in marriage; that they be not anxious to obtain for them large portions and settlements, but that they be joined with persons of religious inclinations, suitable dispositions, and diligence in their business, which are necessary to a comfortable life in a married state.

And it is particularly recommended to all parents, to endeavour to cultivate such habits of confidence and freedom in the truth, with their children, as may render it easy for them early to consult their parents in such important concerns.

It is advised, that all young and unmarried persons in membership with us, previously to their making any procedure in order to marriage, do seriously and humbly wait upon the Lord for his counsel and direction in this important concern, and when favoured with satisfactory clearness therein, they should early acquaint their parents or guardians with their intentions, and wait for their consent; thus preservation from the dangerous bias of pre-ard, brittle and uncertain affections, would be experienced, to the real benefit of the parties, and the comfort of their friends.

And it is earnestly recommended to friends, that they tenderly and carefully watch over the youth, and extend reasonable caution and admonition, as occasion may require.

The breaches of our testimony in going from amongst us, in the weighty engagement of marriage, being often for want of due care in marriage parents, and those who have the important charge of educating the youth under their trust, early to admonish and instruct them in the

principles of truth, and improve their minds with the duty of religiously observing them; as much as possible restraining them from such company as is likely to entangle their affections in an improper manner; we therefore tenderly advise friends, to an increasing care over the youth, that the consistency of our principles in all respects with the nature of true religion, may be impressed upon their tender minds, by upright examples, as well as by precepts; and that when there is apparent danger of the affections of any being improperly entangled, and the care of parents and guardians, or those who have the oversight, appears not sufficient to prevent their taking imprudent steps in the accomplishment of marriage, care be taken, timely to apply for the help of their friends.

And it is further advised, that after parents and guardians have suffered their children to engage one another in affections, they do not break off upon any worldly account, but that they wait upon and seek the Lord for their children, in proposals of marriage; before they give any encouragement thereunto.

It is agreed, that no monthly Meeting permit any marriages to be proposed in the said meeting, sooner than one year after the decease of former husband or wife; and we think it most advisable, that no such proposals be made between the parties, within that time.

It is our sense and judgment, that not only those marriages of near kindred, expressly forbidden under the law, ought not to be practised under the gospel; but that we in our day, ought not to take just courses in marriage; being called to that spiritual dispensation which gives somnison over the affections, and leads to those marriages which are more natural, and of better report. And if any, notwithstanding that warning contrary to this rule, being previously cautioned and advised against it, that the monthly meeting where such belong, give forth a testimony against them, and not receive such into unity again, until they are well assured that they have found a place of repentance, and are revived in the truth.

The subject of marriage in the Records by affinity, having been brought under the view of this Meeting, received its solid and rational consideration, and it is concluded that the construction of our Weekly Meeting, as particularly defined in the year 1773, I meanly, that our members be not allowed to marry a deceased wife's sister, or a deceased husband's brother, I shall hereafter be considered as the construction to be given to our present Discipline.

The prudent and Christian care that has been maintained amongst us in relation to marriage, ever since we were a people, having obtained a good report, it is become of the concern of this Meeting, that the reputation of our religious Society, and the cause of truth herein, may be kept up; and that not only the severest worldly advice of this Meeting, in respect to the proceedings of the parties concerned, and the conduct of their parents and guardians, may be observed, but likewise that as little diversity as may be, may appear amongst us, in regard to the form and manner of solemnization.

For the accomplishment of marriage, it is advised, that the parties should inform the men and women's monthly Meeting to which the woman belongs, of their intention, through the Preparative Meeting, when convenient, and at a proper time they should make it known in both meetings, either by a written communication signed by both parties, or by verbal declaration, that "with Divine permission and friends' approbation, they intend marriage with each other: wherein on two friends in each Meeting (if both the parties belong to the same Meeting) should be appointed by minute, to make the necessary inquiries respecting the cleanness to proceed in marriage, of the party or parties who shall be members of said monthly Meeting. If the parties have parents or guardians present, their consent should be expressed, or if the man is a member of another Monthly Meeting, the consent of his parents or guardians, if he have any, should be produced in writing, with a certificate from his Monthly Meeting, as the case may be, of the other Monthly Meeting.

If the woman be a widow having children, two or more friends should be appointed, to see that the rights of her children are legally secured. At the next Meeting, if the committee report that inquiry has been made, and that they have consent of parents, where it has not been before manifested, and the parties agree to proceed in marriage with each other, the meeting is to leave them at liberty to accomplish their marriage according to our laws, and appoint two friends of each sex, to attend and see that good order is observed, that a certificate be prepared and after being signed by the parties at their marriage, be audibly read, and that a sufficient number of witnesses be thereto subscribed. It is further advised, that the said marriage be accomplished decently, gravely, and weightily; and that the parties themselves, their parents and others concerned, do take care at the houses or places where they go after the meeting is over, that all behave with becoming sobriety; and the said overseers are to make report to the next monthly meeting, and take care that the marriage certificate be recorded.

It is advised to solemnize our marriages at the usual week-day meeting, to which the woman belongs, or at the close of a monthly meeting in a public meeting of men and women friends, unless circumstances may induce the monthly meeting to permit it otherwise; it being understood that the parties are to be present at the Monthly Meeting when permission is granted them to consummate their marriage, if it be their intention to accomplish it at the close of said meeting.

Monthly meetings are at liberty, where they think any peculiarity of circumstances, either of the parties proposing marriage, warrant a deviation from our general practice, to shorten the time of their receiving their answer, by adjourning a monthly meeting; having especial care, that the time for instructing the clearness of the parties, be not less than two weeks, in their making their proposals, and receiving the meeting's answer.

Agreed that it be recommended, that according to the ancient

from the time they begin to be concerned, until their marriage.

This Meeting, having deliberately considered the great exercise brought upon our Society, by those in profession with us, who are joined in marriage contrary to our known principles, and the wholesome discipline established among us, with persons of our own other professions, to earnestly advise, that the parents use their utmost endeavours to prevent such marriages, whenever the parties' inclinations may come to their knowledge.

And it is the sense and judgment of this Meeting, that where persons do marry, contrary to the established rules of the Society, they should be dealt with in a spirit of Christian love and tenderness, agreeably to our known discipline.

And the Members are authorized, if the case requires, to disown such parents or guardians, as encourage the marriages of their children and those under their care (members of our religious Society) contrary to the good order established amongst us, if after Christian and brotherly labour with them, they cannot be brought to a due sense of their error, and a satisfaction according to the same.

We also recommend the good order of friends relating to marriage, that it be carefully preserved and duly maintained in the first and earliest proceedings and intentions, as well as the orderly solemnization thereof; and if any persons contrary to the repeated advice and established order of the Society, should attempt to take one another in any Meeting for worship, without the consent of the Society, or without the consent of the friends, and if any persons should attempt to make void the just care of friends in that case, we advise that the members of the Society do not fail to testify against the practice, as well as to use the proper means to prevent it.

And it is the sense and judgment of this Meeting, that persons who, in the course of their lives, have been joined in marriage with each other, do early obtain the consent of their

Parents or guardians, and that none keep company with those who are not of our Society on that account. That no parents or guardians encourage their children to keep company or converse, and that friends be careful to maintain our testimony faithfully against all disorderly marriages.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of North Carolina Dublin and This were read, written with and signed by the Clerk.

We have been apprehensive that in some of our Meetings friends are subjected to difficulties and trials in which the aid and sympathy of their brethren and sisters would be strengthening and encouraging. we have therefore appointed our friends Sophronia Page, Ann Hopkins, Benj^l Johnson, Anne Maria Lacey, Lydia Thompson, Hannah Howell, Elizabeth Maria, Mary Entwined, Theodore S. Pope, Ruth Lewis, Mary Howe, Lydia Page, Ruth C. Parker, Alice Page, Chas. Douglas, Ruth Day, Elizabeth Steader, Lydia K. Kelley, Marcia P. Hawkes and Mary B. Allen to unite with a Committee of men. friends under a similar appointment - in rendering as way may open therefore such advice and assistance as they may apprehend will have a tendency to promote the prosperity of Dublin and they are desired to report to this Meeting next year. The Clerk is directed to forward to our subordinate Meetings the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings, together with some extracts from the minutes of this Meeting, embracing some of the subjects which have claimed its attention during its several sittings, and the exercises which have been from time to time prevalent as manifested by concerned friends on various occasions - and to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting.

Having been favoured from season to season with an assurance that the canopy of divine love hath been spread over us, and under its uniting influence been enabled to transact the business that has come before us in sisterly harmony, we conclude - purposing if permitted to meet at the usual time and place next year. On behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Secy. Clerk.

During the past year we have seen the church in many states of mind. But we are now in the various situations of this ecclesiastical assembly; we have seen that our beloved sister of every state, might be encouraged to keep near the witness for God in their own hearts, and under its precious influence become wise unto salvation, and partakers of that sustenance which the great Head of the Church dispenses to the living members thereof, not only by the instrumental ministry of the gospel, but by the immediate effusion of his Holy Spirit upon their minds in a state of solemn silence: this privilege may be enjoyed at seasons in private retirement, and even while engaged in our necessary avocations, if under a sense of the want of daily bread, we do not fail in fervent aspirations of heart to seek it: it is agreeably to the promise recorded by the prophet - they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

Many rejoicings are ascribed to our own in the answers to the Queries, for these things sorrow has been the clothing of many exercised minds; and we have craved that all who have been hitherto negligent in the fulfilment of their duty, may be incited to a better practice in these respects, which will tend to their own good in the present life, and in the next. We are fully persuaded that if the attention be sincerely turned unto the Heavenly Shepherd, His presence, help, and guidance will not be withheld.

At this time in this Assembly we trumpet forth testimony in our many thankfulness to God, and with thanksgiving to the Lord, in the removal of our brethren from our midst with us in labours and exercise in the Church the void occasioned by their removal is painful to us, more so indeed this we call to us who are spared still, to look well to our foundations - and this call has additional force when we consider that other faithful servants are coming to the same place, to the same point which, as to them is a point of departure, and as to us a point of arrival.

their labors, their sympathies and the aid of their spirits.
Oh that this call, made in an especial manner unto those
the hearts of our beloved younger sisters, inciting them
to dedicate their time and talents to the cause! How
how consoling is the belief that many, now in the morning
and noon of life are under the preparing hand for
usefulness - that the places of those who are enjoying
the peace of a pious and devoted life may be supplied
by the passing generation, who may be clothed upon, &
become judges as at the first, and counsellors as at the
beginning. For this we humbly pray and may our hope
be realized. To all who are endeavouring to walk in the
paths of piety we would say - hold on your way, turn
not aside on the right hand or on the left. You may
have tribulation, but be of good cheer: your holy Leader
hath overcome the world.

By direction of New England Yearly Meeting of Women's
Friends held at Newport, 6th month 1847.

Hannah Gould Jr. Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women's Friends
Dear Sisters,

Being permitted again to assemble in a Yearly
Meeting capacity, and to experience, through unutterable
mercies, a solemnizing & covering of divine love, our minds
thoroughly have been strengthened, and our faith increased.
Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been read to our
comfort and encouragement, and although this channel
of communication is dependent upon a removal, yet
it is our duty to maintain it in the demonstration of that
authority which is accompanied by the true witness, yet
many amongst us almost made to believe, that it has a
tendency to connect together the different branches of the
cause, and to unite in the bonds of Christian fellowship.
As the state of Society has been brought before us at this
time, we have been reminded of the many deficiencies that
exist within our borders, yet we are encouraged in believing

that notwithstanding there has been a falling away on the right hand and on the left, that there is a living remnant here, who stand as upright pillars in support of the dignified cause of Truth. Although many are the trials of the present day, we have abundant cause to acknowledge that the justification of God stands still, sure. Having this seal, the Lord directs them that are His, that they should endeavor to keep as in the hollow of His hand - to hide them in a pavilion from the strife of tongues. He continues to lead those who put their trust in Him, beside the still waters - to bless the provisions of Zion, and to satisfy his people with bread. There is good ground for encouragement to the humble believer in Jesus - He upholds them by the right hand of His righteousness - as their day is, so shall their strength be: this has been the blessed experience of many both among you, and without - some who have had to pass through deeply proving seasons, when nothing but the arm unseen could have supported - when under an humbling view of their own unworthiness, and the loss sustained by the removal of faithful standard bearers, who were as lights in the world, the reflection whereof has been extensively realized, adorning the progression we make, and bringing honor upon the Christian name; those, though often clad in mourning, sensibly feeling the straitened state of the Church, are yet bound to confess the Lord is good - that His mercy is everlasting - that His truth endureth unto all generations.

May we dear friends, hold fast our confidence firm unto the end, having our dependence fixed upon Him who laid the corner stone, and who through the sanctifying influence of His Spirit, will accomplish the work in His own time and way, whereby a preparation will be wrought, that when the chief Shepherd shall appear these shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

We have been the happy recipients of our beloved friends Weymouth, Boston and Bristol, and

from your heart, which, through the mercies of our Father,
lead us to our inheritance, comfort, and redemption, in
the coming of His Son, the Apostle.

May all of every class, the aged, the middle aged and
those in the early walks of life be engaged to walk while
the day lasts, to press forward through every hindering
and tiring thing, towards the mark for the prize of
the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

With the salutation of love we remain your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Mannah Gould Secy. Clerk

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters,

Under a fresh feeling of that love which unites together
the different members of the family, we again address you, and ac-
knowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the present year.

Under a sense of the unmerited goodness of the ancient of
days, whose guiding, gathering influence, has been in con-
founding mercy spread over us, many hearts have been con-
trited, and drawn into reverential, silent waiting before Him,
wherein our strength has been renewed, and the humble tribute
of gratitude for the mercies received, has ascended in secret.

We have built great causes, in the midst of weakness, and
many deficiencies, humbly to trust in that power which first
sustained our fore-fathers, and sustained them under their ac-
cumulated trials. The same outstretched arm is evidently near
to uphold and to protect, to make a way, where to our finite ap-
prehension there appears to be no way; to bring down the mountains
that obstruct our course, to make crooked paths straight
and rough places plain.

May you, dear sisters, in connection with ourselves, be encour-
aged to a steadfast reliance upon the Shepherd of Israel, whose
watching eye, watches over His heritage, and views with
compassionate regard the little ones of His flock. The attainment
of some of these may be in remote situations, and others, seeing their
own unworthiness to be employed in His work, may be ready
at seasons, to withdraw from the field of service; many these

every where put His own strength in His Name, remembering, that the race is not unto the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but to those who hold out to the end, the precious promises apply — And He who has been their morning light, their meridian strength, will be their crown of rejoicing.

We would affectionately invite the young and inexperienced to come, and realize for themselves the goodness of the Lord, many of these have been partakers of the incomes of His love, the fine reward of obedience. But such are the attractions of the work, and the tenderness of the heart to embrace them, that in every period of life, it requires a watchful state of mind to guard against their allurement: the cultivation of that 'virtue which leads to intemperance of soul' is the only ground of safety, it is thus that the Spirit of adoption is witnessed, whose sweetening petitions ascend as sweet incense before Him who loves an early surrender of the heart, and who will not break the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax.

We have been favoured with the truly acceptable company of our beloved friends Benjamin Bobbin and Robert Lind — both from Great Britain, with several dear friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, whose Gospel labours have been to our comfort and edification.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every word and work to do His will, working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

With the salutation of Christian love we remain your Sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
 Hannah Gould Junr & Clerk.

To Dublin Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear friends,

In a measure of that love which extendeth from sea to sea; and from the rising to the ends of the earth, are we drawn to address you at this time; yet, feeling our utter

inability to communicate any thing that will tend to your comfort or encouragement, unassisted by that Almighty Helper, who can cause even a dumb person His beautiful table, to satisfy those who are hungering in the bread of life, and we are sensible that nothing but His divine power can sustain their often tried minds: and we would affectionately invite all such to look unto Him for support and assistance to walk in the path which he is casting up for them although it may be a tribulated one - He hath promised - as thy day is, so shall thy strength be.

Many of our minds have been drawn into sympathy with you in the severe afflictions with which your loved Father has visited. Let us dear sisters, labour to keep our habitations in the truth, then shall we realize the declaration - the Lord knoweth them that are His, and we are all witnesses abiding in Christ, the true and living vine, that we may become fruitful bearing branches - fruitful in the field of labour, and joyful in the house of prayer.

There are in attendance at this time many of our beloved youth, the weightiness of some of whose spirits have been felt to be animating to their elder sisters who are concerned to bear the burthen in the heat of the day, and are endeavouring to turn the battle to the gate - May this class with you and us, be made willing to resign themselves into the hand of The Father, that He may form and fashion them according to His good pleasure: and may friends be encouraged by the shining hope, that a succession of faithful standard bearers will be raised up, who will be enabled to support the many precious testimonies, given us, as a people to bear, and we desire that none may be unmindful that the men purchased by our faithful predecessors, through much suffering.

We would encourage all to obedience - believing that it is only those who are faithful in the little that shall be made to increase more, and may believe in the light, while we have the light, for the promise remains - The Lord will comfort them he will raise up his waste places, he will make the wilderness like Eden, and the desert like the garden of the Lord - and our Holy Redeemer declared unto His

disciples - So I am with you always, even unto the end of the end of the world.

We are with gratitude & admiration that this Yearly Meeting hath been opened by the overshadowing wing of precious benediction, and we have been enabled to transact the business which has come before us in much unanimity of feeling.

We esteem it one of the many blessings conferred upon us by our Heavenly Father, in permitting us at this time with the company of our beloved friends Benjamin Stobbs and Robert Lindsey from Great Britain, with other dear friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings whose Gospel labours have been encouraging and edifying to us.

With the salutation of "Peace be with you and yours" signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting -

"Carmichael Smith Secy. & Clerk."

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters,

We have been rejoicing in meeting together in person, & should be much obliged to our Heavenly Father, to witness the cementing influence of His love, & harmony in our deliberations have been conducted in great harmony. The love of God as it prevails in the heart, exerting its redemptive and sanctifying influence, produces its fruit, love toward another; "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye love one another as I have loved you." The present is a day of peculiar trial in our religious society; a day which calls for renewed vigilance to stand against the power of the enemy; a day in which the sanctified servant has need fervently to pray - "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" - We are persuaded that however trials and besetments may be our lot, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal the Lord knoweth them that are His. They will, dear Sisters, be concerned to put our trust in the arm of power, & cast all our care upon Him who careth for us, & who is our Father in the morning. Thus relying, and having no confidence in the flesh, we

Dear Sisters,

On the reading of your lively and acceptable
 Epistle of 10th month last, in this our Annual Assembly, from
 your minds have been made, personally sensible of the precious-
 ness of that love which unites together in a spiritual
 relationship, the different members of the Church of Christ,
 however widely separated may be their actual abodes,
 and while we have felt this love to flow fresh towards you
 dear sisters, we have humbly desired, that through watch-
 fulness unto prayer, we may be enabled to dwell near its
 divine fountain, and through unmerited mercy be fa-
 voured to feel renewedly strengthened by the fresh incomes
 thereof.

Many of us, have in this day frequently to experience
 much deep conflict and trial, not only on our own ac-
 count, but also according to our measures in considera-
 tion of the low state of the Church; yet we are bound res-
 pectfully to acknowledge, that from one season to another,
 we have in tender mercy felt the consoling evidence that
 the Lord is still with us, and that his power is still
 manifest in the world, and that he is still with
 his own, he gets his own and is their own and
 shield, therefore, dear friends, may we all be encouraged
 to dwell under an abiding sense of the continued good-
 ness and mercy of Him who hath been with us in six
 troubles and we can humbly trust, will not leave us
 in the hour of our affliction. Some of our minds have
 been clothed with ~~in~~ sadness from a sense of
 our own and the Church's loss, by the removal of
 latter time, of some from among us, who have been
 mothers in Israel and faithful labourers in their day,
 still we are comforted in the hope that there remains to
 be many upright standard bearers in the
 different parts of the Protestant Church; and not a few
 under the forming hand of Him who said - Fear not
 little flock for it is your Father's good pleasure to give
 you the Kingdom. Therefore rejoice ye with him who is

may be preserved steadfast, immovably, always abounding
in the work of the Lord. In being together at this time, in
a Hearty Meeting capacity, we have through infinite mercy
been enabled to witness through the same Holy Spirit
the power of Divine Love and the power of
humbling and uniting our spirits in gospel fellowship.
A large number of our beloved younger friends are in at-
tendance of this Meeting, and a tender interest hath been
felt for the encouragement of this interesting part of the
family, both with you, and with us, that under the re-
newed influence of the Father's love, they may be strengthened
by His Spirit with might in the inner man, and
the language of the Psalmist—Morning and evening
and at noon will I praise Thee.

We were glad to hear that your endeavours to establish
a Hearty Meeting Association were successful, and that
Schools under the care of Monthly Meetings were increas-
ing within your borders, we trust these Christian efforts
will prove a blessing to the rising generations.

The account in your acceptable Epistle of the continued
care extended toward the people of colour, was interesting
to us, and we can respond to the deep feeling of interest
for the oppressed African race in our Land.

We have been favoured to attend to the important
concerns of Society that have come before us at this time
in much unity.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert
Lindsey from Great Britain, and a number of dear friends
from neighbouring Hearty Meetings have attended this
Hearty Meeting—Their company and Gospel labours
have been to our comfort and edification.

In conclusion we salute you dear Sisters, in the words
of the apostle Grace, mercy and peace be multiplied
unto you through the knowledge of God and Jesus Christ our
Lord—and bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting—

Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting of African Friends.

With the salutation of that love which is derived from the revelations of the Holy Spirit, do we beloved friends, again address you, desiring that through the influence of our mutual witness to be made the happy instruments in this land, of speaking a language that may be acknowledged by the precious witness in the secret of the heart; thereby introducing us into a communion of spirit with the Father, and one with another that will bind and unite in the bonds of Christian fellowship, and in the maintenance of the Law and testimony of the ever blessed Truth which is pure, making wise the simple, and enabling us to adopt the language - "Lo! this is our God, we have waited for Him, and He will save us."

In coming to this, our Annual Assembly, some of our minds have been clothed with discouragement, and the fervent petition of our hearts has been, that in the language of the prophet we might bring all our tribes into the store house, and see if he will not pour out a Blessing, enabling us to witness between truth and error, that our testimonies may be preserved in the demonstration of the Truth. We have gratefully to acknowledge that the great Head of the Church, has in His fatherly kindness been pleased to overshadow our minds with the canopy of His love, introducing us into that peaceful quiet, and holy reverence that peacefully strengthens the bond of love, and permits it to flow as pure vessel to vessel.

A large portion of this our Yearly Meeting is composed of the beloved youth, whose exemplary deportments, & the interest evinced in the concerns of Society, have been truly comforting to their elder sisters, who cherish a hope that many are waiting the preparing hour for usefulness - may such with you and with us, continue to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We feelingly sympathize with you in commiseration of the condition of those who are held in bondage, & in the

desiring that every night opening may be embraced for their edification.

The company of our beloved friends Benjamin Jackson and Mary Jackson, from England, with several other friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings, with their gospel labours have been edifying and acceptable.

We have to regret our not receiving from you at this time any communications from your Yearly Meeting.

In that love which desires your establishment on the immovable rock Christ Jesus, we affectionately bid you farewell, and remain your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

To, North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters,

It is under an humbling conviction of the truth of the declaration of our Heavenly Father, "What will we do nothing," that we feel our minds drawn to address you on this happy day, with the completion of your acceptable Epistle of the eleventh month last, which was a comfortable evidence that these our Annual tokens of remembrance have in them a savour of life unto life, quickening to increased vigilance, that the power of the ever blessed Truth may triumph over all to the honour of Him who first gathered us to be a people, and who in mercy hath at seasons given us renewed evidence that He is still graciously disposed to own us: and we may gratefully acknowledge that in this our Annual Assembly we have been favoured in humble dependence and singleness of heart to experience a little of that strength which is imparted to the mind through the medium of His writing, and under a measure of the enriching influence of divine Love, access has been made in humble supplication for the blessing of the Lord upon this to it age. We are induced to believe that it is in a measure by the renewings of the Holy Spirit, that we have been permitted to mingle together at this time in such unanimity in

the fellowship of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ whereby we are brought to feel and reverently to confess, that in all our seasons of conflict and trial we have been enabled to know the sustaining arm of Divine power to be near, & at seasons by His living presence to give the "Spirit of judgment to those who sit in judgment," to the praise of His great and excellent name.

The state of Society, as spread before us in the answers to the Queries is calculated to excite us to increased diligence and greater watchfulness, particularly in the attendance of our religious meetings, and a more circumspect walk consistent with our high profession. We are encouraged to believe, that, there are those in the morning and evening of life, who are in the hand of the great Refiner, and as these are willing to submit to the purifying process, they will come forth bearing the impress and image of Him who is the author and finisher of the saints' Faith.

The interesting account of your Yearly Meeting Boarding School was cheering and encouraging & we desire the Divine blessing may rest upon it, that the precious youth privileged with a guarded, liberal education may know the ground of their hearts prepared for the reception of the precious seed of the Kingdom and be fitted for usefulness in the Lord's vineyard, where "the harvest truly is plenteous, but the faithful labourers few."

The subject of Slavery, with its attendant evils continues to interest us, but may have not opened for our united efforts for the promotion of universal emancipation. May the Spirit of prayer ascend from the altar of the heart for the hastening of that day when redemption may be secured for this degrading traffic.

The company and labours of our beloved friends Benjamin Leblond and Robert Lindsey, with a number of dear friends from neighbouring Society Meetings have been encouraging to us. With the salutation of love we are your affectionate Sisters
Signed in your behalf of the Meeting. Hannah Gould, Secy. Clerk.

The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1840

In meeting together at this time, with our hearts inclined
 humbly to adore Him, without whose sacred aid
 all our efforts to promote the blessed cause of truth are una-
 vailing: and now in attempting again to address you, dear
 Sisters, we can reverently acknowledge that through the
 several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, we have been per-
 mitted to witness the solemnizing covering of Divine love
 whereby our minds have been strengthened, and our faith
 increased: and on the reading of several acceptable Epistles
 from the different Yearly Meetings, a comfortable evidence
 was felt, confirming our minds in the belief that when the
 channel of communication is kept open under the influence
 of His Spirit, in whom are all our fresh springs, it tends to
 strengthen the bond of Christian fellowship, and is an encour-
 agement to maintain the watch, and humbly to pray for
 the blessing of preservation in the fear of the Lord, that we
 may be kept as one compact building, fitly joined together,
 all receiving nourishment from the same Holy Head, Christ
 Jesus our Lord, and thus be enabled to keep our ranks in
 righteousness, and to make worthy the location where we
 are called - and having on the badge of true discipleship,
 be prepared to hold up an ensign of peace to the nations.

Humbled as we oft have been dear friends from a sense of
 our manifold infirmities, there still remains much cause for
 thankfulness for the continued goodness, love and mercy of Him,
 who hath been pleased to sustain us by the hand unseen
 amid all the trials of our day: and renewedly strengthened
 by His Spirit with might in the inner man enabling
 us to say, as one formerly did, He has brought low and He
 helped me - therefore may we all be increasingly engaged
 to labour for durable peace and righteousness, without
 which we cannot hope to see God. And may we, dear friends,
 hold fast our confidence firmly unto the end, placing our
 our dependence fixed upon Him who trod the wine-press
 alone, and who will not leave His humble, devoted child-
 ren - but for the comfort of these He hath said - Lo! I am
 with you always, even unto the end of the world. And by

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a due submission to His Spirit the sanctifying influence of
his Spirit's impetration will be wrought, that when the
chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of
glory that fadeth not away.

Many of our beloved younger friends are in attendance
of this Yearly Meeting - and in this interesting part of
the family, whether present or absent, we feel a tender
solicitude for their encouragement, to come up in the
obedience of faith and to step forward in the right way
of the Lord.

We have been favoured to attend to the important
subjects that have come before us at this time in harmo-
ny and love.

The company and gospel labours of our beloved
friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsay from
England, and divers dear friends from neighbouring
Yearly Meetings have been most strengthening and truly
acceptable to us at this time.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends.
Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

At the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends held at Newport
in New England, by adjournments from the 4th to the 16th
inclusive, of 6th month, 1848.

By accounts received from our respective Quarterly Meet-
ings, we are informed that they have appointed the fol-
lowing Friends to represent us to this Meeting, viz:
From Rhode Island — Elizabeth Harris, Hannah W. Perkins,
Mary Allen, Elizabeth Dickham, Elizabeth Allen, Hannah
C. Robinson, and Joanna Vick.

From Salem — Elizabeth Luce, Sophia in Page, Oliver Allen,
Elizabeth Page, Ruth L. Wendell, Eliza B. Brown, Ruth
J. Challis.

From Sandwich — Rhoda Townsend, Beulah H. Rogers,
Phoebe Wright, Huldah Lyford, Sarah Tucker, Sarah Potter,
Lydia C. Mitchell and Sarah Easton.

From Smithfield — Lydia R. Allen, Catherine Constock,
Ruth May, Phoebe C. Marsh, Phebe Smith and Elizabeth
A. Osborne.

Wilmington — Hannah H. Jones, Lydia Allen, Jane Hinck,
Phoebe G. Brown and Eliza Jones.

Dassaborough — Rebecca Taber, Ann C. Robinson, Hannah
Jones, Cynthia Jones and Lydia Taber.

Dover — Hannah L. Sawyer, Cynthia B. Jones,
Hannah Merrill, Ruth Sawyer and Abigail Drake.

From Fairfield — Lydia Wright, Fannie L. Lewis, Eliza
Wing, and Sarah P. Sampson.

Whose names being called they were all present except
three

By the reports received at this time it appears that
Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Free-
mich Monthly Meeting in appointing Ann Townsend
to the station of an Elder; that ~~Salem~~ Salem has united
with Lubec Monthly Meeting in the appointment
of Cynthia H. Huntington to the same station; that
Sandwich has united with Dartmouth Monthly Meeting
in approving the public appearances in the ministry
of Sarah Potter; with New Bedford Monthly Meeting in
approving the like appearances of Josiah Holmes jun. &c.

with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in the appointment of David Kelly to the station of an Elder; and with Dartmouth Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Mary Gifford and Isaac R. Gifford to the same station; that Smithfield has united with Smithfield Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Thomas Brown; and with the same Monthly Meeting in appointing Elizabeth A. Osburn to the station of an Elder; that Wassaquoiunite with China Monthly Meeting in approving the gift and public appearances in the ministry of Elisha Jones and James McLaughlin; and in the appointment of Eli Humes and Henry Carey to the station of Elders; with Wassaquoiunite Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Benjamin Worth; and with Unity Monthly Meeting in appointing James H. Jones an Elder.

The Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting were now read.

Epistles from New York, London, Baltimore, North Carolina and Ohio Yearly Meetings have been read at this time—these communications containing encouragement, caution and counsel are truly acceptable and edifying; and on considering the subject of addressing our beloved sisters of other Yearly Meetings, we have believed it right to appoint our friends Lydia Congdon, Rhoda Howland, Anna A. Jenkins, Susan Howland, Mary W. Garrison, Lydia C. Keller, Mary Cooke, Anne Elmira Lunt, Henry K. Harris, Martha J. Hedges, Beulah W. Rogers, Rebecca L. Hoxie, Hannah Taber, Rachel S. Howland, Deborah B. Garrison Elizabeth Bove, Elizabeth Howland, Sophronia Page and Sarah T. Tobey to meet together, and if way should open in the truth prepare Essays & Epistles to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends, and submit them to future sittings of this meeting.

We select our friends Hannah L. Sawyer, Mary E. Brown, Eliza B. Boyce, Hannah Taber, and Ann Jones to prepare a Summary from the answers to the Queries, and present when ready.

The Representatives are requested to meet at the rise of this meeting to confer on the subject of Clerks.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet.
2nd day afternoon, assembled near the 4th hour.

One of the Representatives informed the Meeting that they had met on the subject of Clerks, and were united in proposing Hannah Gould Jun^r for Clerk and Susan Howland for assistant, which being acceptable to the Meeting, they are appointed to those stations.

Our beloved Friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsay from Great Britain and whose Certificates were read last year, are again acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friends Phoebe Field, from Scipio Monthly Meeting, New York; Abigail R. Hoar, from Harrisburgh Monthly Meeting, Vermont; Rachel Chamber, from New York Monthly Meeting; Persis Harwood from Harrisburgh Monthly Meeting; and Simeon Hazard, from the same Monthly Meeting, who accompanies his wife - and of Joshua Kimball from New York who is companion to his wife. Satisfactory testimonials from their respective Meetings, of unity with them, and in their present religious engagements, were read at this time.

We have also the acceptable company of our dear friends Abneriah Meritt and Sarah S. Meritt with a minute from Scipio Monthly Meeting of Greensides.

The company of the above named friends with others in attendance with us from neighbouring Yearly Meetings has been comforting and encouraging to us.

Minutes have been also read on behalf of our dear friends Richard Mott, from Purchase Monthly Meeting, Friends, State of New York; Lindsey M. Hoar, from New York Mo Meeting; John Lott, from Baltimore Monthly Meeting, Maryland; Thomas Wells, from Miami Monthly Meeting, Ohio; Charles Taber, from Farmham, Monthly Meeting, East Canada.

We believe the tribute of thankfulness has arisen to the Glorious God of this people that He hath been pleased to send

the feet of His messengers to this portion of His flock and family.

We adjourn to the time our mess friends may meet - 3rd day near the 10th hour friends again meet.

The Queries were read succeeded by answers from our several Quarterly Meetings - a summary being prepared, was read in connection therewith, which was satisfactory to the Meeting and is as follows viz.

1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline appear to have been attended, with the exception of a few small meetings, the principal cause of which omission is stated to have been sickness and inclemency of the weather; altho' marked deficiencies are apparent in many, particularly in the middle of the week and those for discipline, on which account some care has been expended, and a few in one Monthly Meeting continue to attend a separate meeting held under our name - The hour nearly observed - most friends preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour except in a few instances

2nd. Love and unity are maintained amongst us, yet not so fully by all as Truth would lead to - We believe there is a care to guard against detraction, yet we are sensible that more watchfulness and circumspection are wanting with some - The differences have arisen care has been taken to end them.

3rd. There appears a concern with many friends to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel and to discourage the perusal of pernicious books and corrupt conversation - and most friends endeavour to be exemplary herein themselves, yet deviations are apparent, and a more watchful care and early restraint are evidently wanting with some - We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

4th Friends are generally careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes - A few instances of attending places of public resort, where some

care has been taken. — A good degree of moderation is observed on account of births, marriages, burials and on other occasions.

5th. The circumstances of the poor and such as are likely to need assistance are duly inspected and their necessities relieved, and they assisted in such business as they are capable of. Their children partake of learning except in one or two instances noticed in one of the answers, where care has been extended. — we know of none placed from among friends.

6th. There is a care with most parents and heads of families, with many of the young and unmarried, that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to ~~our~~ our discipline; yet there are several instances of keeping company and marrying out of the order of our Society — where some care has been extended.

7th. Friends appear concerned to maintain our testimony in regard to the several particulars of this query, — yet one account states an exception with respect to the faithful maintenance of our testimony against an hireling ministry.

8th. Most friends are careful in these respects as far as appears.

9th. Generally careful as to records — many deficiencies are noticed in relation to certificates — on which account some care has been taken.

10th. Some care has been taken to deal with offenders we trust as quered after, yet not without delay in some instances — We believe judgment has been placed according to discipline.

The departures from the order of discipline have been painfully affecting to many minds — a remarkable union of exercise has been manifested that all classes amongst us may be brought under the regulating influences of the Spirit of Truth, and line upon line, and precept upon precept have been pressed upon us with lively and affectionate interest.

The Committee having charge of our Boarding School presented the following Report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

The Committee for the Superintendence of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School at Providence, have, during the past year, attended to the duties of their appointment.

The School has been continued through the year (with the usual vacations) under the charge of Silas and Sarah M. Cornell, as Superintendants and principal Teachers.

During the Summer Term, we had the services of Charles A. Burton and Edward L. Hox, as assistant Teachers in the male department of the School, and Lafayette Burr, a young man connected with Brown University, has, through the year, given lessons in the Latin and Greek languages for five days in the week, to a class in this School. Richard Dame has also assisted in teaching languages during part of the time. In the Girls School, Gertrude E. Whittier and Sarah Alice Cornell, served as Teachers.

During the Winter Term, in the Boys' School, the same Teachers remained, and the School being large, Lindley M. Moore was engaged as assistant teacher in addition.

Martha M. Holmes, Sarah Jay Brown and Sarah Alice Cornell, were assistant teachers in the Girls' School during the same Term.

In addition to the Monthly Meetings of the Committee, and intermediate visits by sub-committees regularly appointed at these meetings for that service, semi-annual examinations at the close of each term, have been attended by the Committee; that at the close of the Summer Term being, also, attended by a number of the Yearly Meetings Committee on education.

Our several examinations in these forms, have been in general satisfactory. The Friends in the immediate care of the Institution, as superintendants, teachers, or in the more subordinate stations, have

winced a careful regard for the good of the School, and a concurrence for the faithful performance of their duties to their interesting charge, which have been satisfactory to the Committee.

Of the scholars, both male and female, we may say, that generally their deportment has been orderly, and their attention to their studies and improvement therein commendable — and we are encouraged to believe that the school has continued to be useful, in promoting the literary advancement of the scholars — and favourable, under the Divine blessing, to the awakening and strengthening good resolutions for a consistent course in after life.

The average number of scholars has been one hundred and one, viz: fifty five males, and forty six females.

Meetings for worship have been regularly held at the times appointed — and the family has been preserved in much harmony.

The accounts of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the School Fund, have been examined and audited. The expenditures of the School for the past year, ending with the last winter term, have been twelve thousand, eight hundred and seventeen dollars and forty three cents. The income has been as follows: Interest from the School Fund, six thousand, two hundred and forty six dollars, seventy seven cents; — from Board and Tuition of scholars, (including \$130.87 for articles sold and \$157.20 due from scholars for past terms) five thousand, three hundred and thirty eight dollars, and seventy seven cents. Total income, eleven thousand, five hundred and eighty five dollars, and fifty four cents — leaving a deficiency of income to meet the expenditures of twelve thousand and thirty one dollars, eighty nine cents. The available balance in the hands of the Treasurer in the Fifth month last, the time of the examination, may be stated at eleven hundred and eleven dollars and forty six cents.

Considerable amount of repairs and alterations has

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has been made during the past year, particularly in the warming and cooking apparatus at the School House, and some improvement about the grounds, the expense of which, exceeding sixteen hundred dollars, is included in the expenditures above reported.

We would propose, that the terms of Board and Tuition should be continued as last year, viz: Thirty dollars per Term for members of our Yearly Meeting; forty-five dollars for those not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and fifty dollars for any others who may be admitted - and that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending a scholar free of expense for one term, the same to be occupied either at the next Winter or succeeding Summer Term, at the discretion of the Monthly Meeting. The several Monthly Meetings to notify the Committee at their Meeting in the Fifth month of their conclusion, in case they propose to occupy the privilege in the Summer Term.

Among the subjects which have claimed the attention and concern of the Committee, has been the promotion of a conformity to our religious profession, and the requisitions of our discipline by the scholars, in plainness of dress and address. On this subject, labour and advice have been from time to time imparted in the schools. But the Committee have a strong belief of the importance of the care of parents, and of Monthly Meetings, with the children at home on these subjects. Under this belief, and in pursuance of what they believed their duty under their appointment, they issued, in the third month last, a communication addressed to Friends in the several Monthly Meetings, on the subject of plainness of speech, behaviour & apparel - a copy of which is herewith presented.

During the past year, the health of the inmates of the School has been generally good, although we have to note some sickness, particularly a prevalence of colds and sore throats in the Third month, with which eight or ten of the male scholars were more or less affected - and the removal by death of two young men, scholars in the school,

during the year. The first was Thomas T. White, from Elizabeth City, Pasquotank county, North Carolina, who died on the 20th of Eleventh month last, aged 21 years; and of whom it was reported, that his deportment during all the time of his being at the School was orderly and satisfactory, never having in word or deed given occasion for reproof or dissatisfaction.

^{10th} The second instance of mortality was Benjamin Winslow of Winthrop, Maine, son of Joseph Winslow. He had been affected to some extent with sore throat, which had prevailed in the School, but from which he had nearly recovered, when he was seized with disease of the bowels, of which he died on the 3rd of Fourth month, after a few days illness, aged 21 years. We believe it may not without usefulness to say in this report, that the deportment of this young man, during the time he spent in the School, was very exemplary - and after his disease assumed a character which left him little or no prospect of recovery, he was favoured unto the end, with much Christian composure, and several times remarked, that although he felt his sinfulness to be great, yet he trusted that by the mercy of his Heavenly Father, through our Lord and Saviour, he should find forgiveness of his sins and be accepted. Death, he said, had no terrors for him. He manifested much gratitude towards those who had the care of him in his illness, and frequently spoke of his parents, towards whom he also felt very grateful, saying he believed their watchfulness and care over him, had done much towards preparing his mind for the solemn change that awaited him.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee,
Stephen A. Chase, Clerk.

Providence, Fifth mo. 30th, 1848.

This report was satisfactory and the effect solemnizing to the Members.

The Circular referred to in the Report of the Committee was also read and approved, and is as follows, viz:

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To Friends in the several Monthly Meetings, in the
Yearly Meeting for New England.

The Committee for the government and superintendence of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School, in the discharge of the duties assigned upon them by the Yearly Meeting — believe it right to bring seriously to the view of Friends, the necessity of increased care and watchfulness on the subject of plainness of dress, and in language, with the children who are placed in the School. A strong desire has been felt by the Committee, that parents should more seriously feel their responsibility in relation to their children; and should thereby be led to seek for ability to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, — returning the encouraging language of Holy Scripture — 'Train up a child in the way he should grow, and when he is old he will not depart from it.'

We would also express our concern that the Monthly Meetings would extend increasing care to the children sent to the School, that they may be prepared as much as possible, to profit by the care and labour extended to them while here. We believe judicious care by Friends at home may do much to increase the usefulness of the School, and very much lighten the labours of those who may be employed in its superintendence, — and thus the concern of the Yearly Meeting in the establishment of the School be much furthered and promoted.

For the information of Friends we make the following extracts, from a minute of the School Committee, made Eighth month 7th, 1835, and these transmitted to the Monthly Meetings, — and would desire the attention of Friends thereto.

At a Committee of the New England Yearly Meeting Boarding School, held Eighth mo. 7th 1835 — The subject of an increased observance in this Institution of plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel, having, from time to time, claimed the serious attention of the

Committee, and a lively concern on this account having been manifested at our last Yearly Meeting, we have believed it right for us at this time to revive the subject to our friends. While we feel that we are not called upon to enter extensively into a vindication of the propriety of maintaining our testimonies in the particulars alluded to, we would affectionately remind our younger friends, that they are in accordance, as we believe, with the beautiful system of Christian simplicity taught by our blessed Lord and his Apostles. And we may appeal to the experience of our Society to prove, that they have been as a hedge about us, which it has ever been perilous to break down: and when in individual instances, this has been done, that weakness and loss have been the consequences.

We should ever remember the Apostolic exhortation, 'Let your moderation be known unto all men.' And let not your adorning be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and putting on apparel, and wearing of gold, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is, in the sight of God, of great price.

Let our minds, dear friends, duly impressed with a sense of the matchless love of our adorable Redeemer and Preserver—were our hopes and dependence placed on Him—how should we be raised above the undue attachment to the things of time and sense and a conformity to the vain fashions and customs of the world. And in accordance with the recommendations of our Discipline, we earnestly desire that parents and guardians would impress upon the minds of their children, the necessity of maintaining plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel, which is strictly required in the School.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee
Stephen A. Chase Clerk.

Providence, Second mo: 29th, 1848.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet.
Afternoon, near the 4th house friends may meet.

On information from our men friends that they had

appointed a Committee to take into solid and careful consideration any subjects they may apprehend as affecting the general interests of the Boarding School - after deliberating hereon we have appointed our friends Lydia Congdon, Hannah C. Robinson, Sophronia Page, Anna D. King, Miriam Newhall, Elizabeth Love, Betsey P. Wood, Mercy R. King, Phoebe S. Marsh, Ruth Fay, Lucy Harnum, Ann Hopkins, Hannah G. Sawyer, Ruth Sawyer, Lois Jones, Lydia Dennis, Jane Minott, Ann Elmina Long, Martha J. Hodges, Ann Jones, Sarah P. Sampson, Lydia Taylor, Lucy J. Hunkers & Lydia C. Jones to unite with our brethren in this concern and they are requested to report at a subsequent sitting of this Meeting.

The London printed Epistle of last year has been read at this time, and we desire that its instructive and edifying contents may be treasured in every heart for our present help and future benefit.

We adjourn to the time our own friends may meet - 4th day next near the 10th hour.

A Testimony from Ware Monthly Meeting and approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting, concerning our beloved friend Lydia Bond deceased, was read at this season, and under the solemnity prevailing in the minds of friends, much concern was manifested, that in a view of the removal of those who had been long fellow labourers with us in the important services in the Church, those who still remain might be incited to devote themselves more fully to the promotion of the cause of Truth and Righteousness, and thus be enabled to supply the places of those who by persevering watchfulness and dedication have entered into their rest.

We adjourn to the time our own friends may meet. Afternoon - friends assembled at the 4th hour

Our men friends communicated to us a proposal from New York Yearly Meeting in the appointment of a Committee to unite with that and other Yearly

Meetings that may enter into the measure in taking into solid consideration the present state of our Society - and they informed that they had appointed a committee. This Meeting entered fully into sympathy with our brethren, and desires were raised that the divine blessing might rest upon them in this important work.

The following minute was contained in the report from Salisbury Quarterly Meeting viz:

"The circumstance of our Yearly Meeting being held so far from the centre of Friends having claimed our serious and deliberate consideration from time to time, we are united in proposing to our next Yearly Meeting for its consideration, the propriety of changing the place of convening that body to a more central place; - and similar minutes also came up in the reports from Cassatborough and Fairfield; whereupon we appoint our friends Ann Hopkins, Hannah C. Robinson, Joanna Pick, Elizabeth Meader, Elizabeth Love, Sophronia Page, Miriam Towhall, Mary Chase, Ruth H. Baker, Lydia Congdon, Ruth Davis, Mercy K. Wing, Mary B. Farnum, Ruth Earle, Abigail Inman, Elizabeth A. Osborne, Lydia Allen, Lois Jones, Lois Jones, Mary P. Wainey, Hannah W. Jones, Lydia R. Taber, Deborah B. Warren, Ann Jones, Rebecca Taber, Hannah March, Hannah S. Sawyer, Abigail Breda, Mahulith Jones, Lucy J. Hawkes, Hannah Pope, Sarah P. Sampson, and Lydia Taylor to join the committee of seven friends, to take the subject into their deliberate consideration, and report their judgment thereon next year.

A proposition was read for Dover Quarterly Meeting to alter the time of holding their Quarterly Meeting held in the 8th month at North Berwick from 5th day of the ~~same~~ week to the 6th day of the same week; and that the select Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month be changed from 1st day of the week to 5th day, at 11 o'clock, P.M. which is united with by the Yearly Meeting.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet.

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5th day afternoon at the 11th hour friends convened.

A memorial has been read concerning our dear deceased friend Noah Reed, from Wrentham Monthly Meeting, and endorsed by Hallowell Quarterly Meeting. This deserved testimonial to departed worth was both interesting and instructive.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, London and New York were read approved and signed.

The Minutes of the Meeting for sufferings for the past year, were read at this time — the concern manifested by our brethren of that Meeting for the welfare of body and their labours for the promotion and preservation of sound principles, good order and peace, have been satisfactory and encouraging to this part of the family.

The Committee appointed to take under their serious care and consideration subjects connected with the general interests of the Boarding School gave in a report which is satisfactory, and is as follows, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration subjects connected with the welfare of the Boarding School at Providence, have been together. They were favoured with a very comfortable degree of harmony in the consideration of several interesting matters, touching the best interests of the School.

A general feeling of satisfaction with the present state of the Institution was expressed, although deficiencies still exist, which are desirable to be removed particularly in relation to our testimonies respecting plainness and moderation.

The Committee, in the superintendence of the School, were encouraged to continue their labours in the interesting concerns, and for the promotion of a general religious education of the youth who may be placed there — with the hope and prospect of increased usefulness. In behalf of the Committee,

Benjamin Fay,

Sam Hopkins.

Newport, Oct mo: 14th, 1848

The Committee also proposed the names of Elizabeth Mader, Ann Hopkins and Sarah F. Tobey to supply the vacancy occasioned by the release of our friends Lydia Congdon, Sophronia Page and Susan Howland, and those friends appointed to unite with those already under appointment by this Meeting viz: Joanna Peck, Eunice Metcalf, Ann Elmira Lang, Eliza A. Osborne, Mary Howe, Mary B. Hammond, Elizabeth Wier, Phoebe R. Lifford, Ann B. Earle in superintending our Boarding School, with the usual powers confided by this Meeting to their Committee, and report next year.

The Committee of this Meeting on Education made the annexed report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, upon the subject of Education, Report,

That during the past year they have endeavored to give some attention to the duties of their appointment, and since their organization in the sixth month last, they have held meetings as specified in the Minute of their appointment, viz: at the Boarding School, Providence, in the Tenth month, and have had three sittings the present week at this place.

In the Tenth month, a number of this Committee were present at the examination of the Boarding School, which was very interesting and satisfactory to us. Several of the School Committee very acceptably attended our sittings at that time. Many weighty and salutary remarks were made by concerned friends present, tending, we trust, very much to the encouragement of those present, both members of the School Committee and those of our number. A very warm sympathy was manifested at that time with parents and heads of families, and desires raised that they might feel an increased engagement and responsibility resting upon them, and be drawn to look to Him, who alone is able rightly to qualify them to bestow a religious and guarded education on their offspring. Scattered as we are in many locations, rendering it difficult to keep up schools

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exclusively for the children of Friends, a journal was expressed that we should avail ourselves of the privilege of sending our children of suitable age to our Yearly Meeting Boarding School, believing this Institution offers opportunities of acquiring and education more religiously guarded than can be obtained at mixed schools, and that friends be encouraged to make such pecuniary sacrifices as may be warrantable to accomplish this object.

We have at the present time received reports from members of our Committee, within the limits of ^{of several} our Quarterly Meetings, which contain interesting and satisfactory accounts, and we trust we are at this time renewedly, impressed with the importance of the right education of our children, not only as it relates to the dear youth, but also to the value and fare and prosperity of our beloved Society.

We submit the following statistical information received in the returns which have come to hand, from all our Monthly Meetings within the Yearly Meeting, except two, viz:

Number of children between the ages of 4 and 16	1,369
" " " " " 16 and 21,	631
" Monthly Meeting Schools	1
" Preparative Meeting "	3
" Family "	11
of children attending Friends' Schools,	203
" " " " " " " "	1,579

It will be seen that a very large portion of our children are in the attendance of mixed schools, but ~~frankly~~ as ~~it is~~ ~~our~~ ~~aim~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~we~~ ~~are~~ notwithstanding, encouraged in believing that an increased interest is manifesting itself through the Yearly Meeting, for the promotion of select schools, as appears by the accounts which we have received at this time, as well as ~~as~~ ~~many~~ ~~portentous~~ ~~remarks~~ ~~that~~ have been made by Friends, very much to the encouragement of the Committee. We desire just to encourage the establishment of family schools — even to unite

two or more families together, when circumstances will admit — and may Friends turn their attention towards that class of our youth who finish their education at the academies in our villages, where, we fear, that they often imbibed habits and views which prove much to their injury in after life.

The Minutes of the School Committee, in the government of the Boarding School, the past year, were read by the Clerk of that Committee at one of our recent sittings. It was with much satisfaction, that we observed the unremitting care and oversight which they had extended since their appointment, for the promotion of the best interest of that Institution.

We are well aware, but little has been done by us towards the promotion of the object of our appointment — but believe that the concern ^{of the Yearly Meeting} will be best promoted under the care of a similar Committee.

Newport 6th Mo. 14th, 1848.

Charles R. Tucker Clerk.

— which is satisfactory to us, and the Friends now under appointment, with substitutions Nancy Pillsbury in the place of Susan P. Bartland (removed) for Linsington Monthly Meeting, and adding Abigail D. Arnold and Rachel Collins, for Greenwich and South Kingston Monthly Meetings, are continued a Committee for the services pointed out in their original appointment, and they are encouraged to ^{give} their attention thereto, and report to this Meeting next year.

Committee. — Mary Williams, Laura L. Chase, Sarah Stode, Elizabeth Pickham, Trulove Lums, Mary W. Smith, Anna F. Dennis, Hannah Gould Jun^r, Abigail D. Arnold, Rachel Collins, Elizabeth H. Chase, Mary E. Ward, Elizabeth Gore, Susan L. Brown, Alice Page, Anna Johnson, Sarah Anthony, Dorcas F. Tucker, Rebecca C. Hoxie, Mercy H. Wing, Sarah Barnard, Lydia Mitchell, Mary Gifford, Abigail H. Kirby, Barbara Gifford, Rebecca Church, Sarah J. Brown, Mary Shepherd, Mary Brackett, Nancy Pillsbury, Lydia Allen, Sarah H. Pope, Lydia H. Jones, Jane C. Hinot, Eunice Rich Maria B. Jones, Catherine Comstock, Abigail Sumner,

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Ruth Earle, Elizabeth Southwick, Ruth Fay, Sarah C. Fay,
Lydia P. Page, Theodore S. Pope, Mary Cook, Mary R.
Jones, Deborah Warren, Jane H. Jones, Abigail Breda,
Sarah Hoag, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah L. Sawyer,
Hannah Merrill, Lydia C. Neal, Olive Mins, Lydia
Taylor, Sarah T. Sampson, Lucy J. Hawkins, Phoebe
Bailey, Chloe Douglas.)

We adjourn to the 9th hour tomorrow morning -
Sixth day the 16th Friends met agreeably to adjournment.
The representatives being called all are present who at-
tended the first sitting excepting two, for the absence
of these satisfactory reason were given.

Our beloved friend Anna S. Jenkins we are informed
has been liberated by her Monthly and Quarterly Meet-
ings, and by the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders,
to visit in gospel love some of the Meetings of Friends
in Great Britain, and to attend to such other religious
engagements in that land as may be required of her.
Mary S. Hannum, Elizabeth Meader, Elizabeth Wing
and Sarah T. Tobey are appointed a Committee with
whom she may consult and advise on any subject
connected with ^{her} proposed religious visit.

We are also informed that our beloved friend Susan
Hastland, has been liberated to attend the Yearly Meet-
ings of London and Ireland, and to visit, in the
love of the Gospel, the Meetings constituting them,
and also to visit, as way may open for it, some of
the Meetings of those professing with Friends on the
Continent of Europe, and to attend to such other re-
ligious service as may be required of her. And we
appoint our friends Ruth Davis, Hannah T. Tabor,
Abigail Davis, Sarah H. Anthony and Elizabeth
Wing a Committee with whom she may advise and
consult upon any subject in relation to her con-
templated visit.

Endorsements for the Minutes of our beloved friends
who are withheld from other Yearly Meetings were
prepared, approved, and the task devolved to sign them.

on behalf of the Meeting

The Committee under T^h appointment to visit subordinate Meetings presented the subjoined report.

To the Yearly Meeting;

The Committee to visit Subordinate Meetings report, That we have attended to our appointment, and as way opened for it, have visited such Meetings as were under peculiar circumstances growing out of the Separation; and have sympathised with our dear friends in their various trials; and we have endeavoured to labour in the ability received, for the preservation of good order. These trials still exist in several Meetings. At one of our Quarterly Meetings, Friends were obliged to adjourn their Meeting for Discipline, on account of the Separatists remaining in the Meeting. Friends, after kindly requesting them to retire, and finding no prospect of their doing so, adjourned to another hour, and were then enabled to transact their business undisturbed.

On behalf of the Committee,

Stephen Jones, Sec^y.

Newport, 6th mo. 16th, 1848.

Elizabeth Wing.

— which is satisfactory to us; and under feelings of sympathy for our dear friends, who, in some of their Meetings, are still subjected to trials, in consequence of the secession; within their limits, our friends appointed last year, viz: Sophronia Page, Ann Hopkins, Com^{rs} in person, Ann Elmira Lang, Lydia Thompson, Hannah Merrill, Elizabeth Wing, Mary E. Breed, Theodora S. Pope, Ruth Davis, Mary Stone, Lydia Pope, Ruth C. Baker, Eliza Page, Chloe Douglass, Ruth Fox, Elizabeth Mader, Mary B. Jamison, Lydia R. Kelly, and Marcia P. Hawkes, are continued a Committee to visit as way may open for it, these Meetings, and render such advice and assistance, as under the guidance of best wisdom they may be favoured

afford.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Dublin, Indiana, Ohio, Baltimore and North Carolina, were read, approved and signed by the Clerk.

The Clerk is directed to sign, and forward to our subordinate Meetings Extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting - and also to forward to those Meetings transcripts of Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings.

For the continued mercy and love of our Heavenly Father we desire reverently to acknowledge our gratitude; craving that we may be increasingly devoted to His work and service: and having transacted the business that has come before us in harmony, we separate, purposing, if permitted, to meet again at the usual time and place next year.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Hannah Goulds, Jun^r. Clerk.

Extracts forwarded to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings
Whilst we have desired gratefully to appreciate the
privilege of again assembling for the purpose of transacting
the business of the Society, and of mingling together
in feeling one with another, we have been aware of the
claim our absent sisters have to a large share of our sym-
pathy, and we would that they should be made parta-
kers, with us, in the representation and unanimously
sanctioned to us during the sittings of this our annual
Solemnity.

A remarkable union of exercise has been manifested
from day to day that all classes amongst us, may be
brought under the regulating influence of the Spirit
of Truth, and hence upon him, and precept upon precept
have been pressed upon us with affectionate and
lively interest.

Mothers, and heads of families have been entreated
to give all diligence in the early education of their
offspring and those under their care, training them
up in that plainness of habit and of speech which
becomes our profession and by which our faithful
predecessors were particularly distinguished: and that
that their labours there be aided by their own example
being more solicitous that their tender minds be im-
pressed with sound Christian principles, and they
directed into the path of purity, whereby they may
obtain the pearl of great price than to procure for
them unchristian riches — often recommending to them
the solemn paternal injunction of the royal psalmist,
"And thou, Solomon, my son, know thou the God of
thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart, and
with a willing mind — if thou seek Him, He will be
found of thee, but if thou forsake Him, He will cast thee
off forever." As soon as they are capable of receiving in-
struction, let it be your earnest endeavour to fix their
understandings in those things that will conduce to
their lasting welfare. The Spirit assisting with them the
Holy Scriptures will assist in forming their minds,

and be a means of preserving them from the dangerous influence of such conversation and writings as have a tendency to corrupt the youthful mind, and alienate it from the Spirit and power of God, wherein alone is the safety and happiness of His dependant creatures children.

The Lord, saith the Prophet, is good unto them that wait for Him, to the poor that seeketh Him - let every one therefore, who professeth to worship Him in spirit and in truth, give diligent attention, in coming together for His solemn purposes - let all concerns of an inferior nature, give place to this important and profitable duty, for true worship is both acceptable to God, and beneficial to our own souls.

Our hearts have been comforted in witnessing from day to day, the solid and becoming appearance and deportment of a large number of our beloved young friends, and we trust our Heavenly Father is graciously caring for, and visiting ^{them}, and His forming and qualifying hand preparing and leading many of them into the service of His Church, and it is our earnest desire that they may be preserved in watchfulness, and obedience to His holy will - thus will the void occasioned by the removal of those who have passed from works to reward be supplied, and the hearts of the aged be cheered with the prospect of judges as at the first, and counsellors as at the beginning.

Signed by direction of the meeting.

Hannah Gould Jun^r. Clerk

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

We trust it is in a measure of that love which changeth not, neither can the floods drown it, that we address you, and under a renewed sense of our unworthiness are concerned to bow down before the giver of every good, and every perfect gift, feeling that He alone can enable us to perform our various duties, in that simplicity and

godly sincerity which is acceptable in His divine sight.
Though the voice of mourning has been heard within
our borders, for the desolating effects of that spirit which
divideth in Jacob, and scattereth in Israel, we have
been comforted in the blessed assurance, that the "name
of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runneth into
it, and are safe;" and we desire reverently to adore that
power which can stay the hand of the destroyer, and say
to the troubled soul - "Be still, and know that I am God!"
and under the influence of this sustaining power, strength
sufficient for the day has been mercifully granted unto
those who are endeavouring to labour faithfully, in the
ability afforded for the support of our Christian principles and
testimonies in the purity of the gospel, and in seasons of
discouragement and deep pressing, how animating has
been the evidence, that an increasing concern is felt by
many in the meridian of life, to come up to the help of
the Lord against the mighty. To our young friends we
would offer the language of encouragement, desiring that
they may be enabled through watchfulness unto prayer,
to improve the talents committed to their trust, to the honor
of Him who loveth an early sacrifice, and faileth not to
reward all such with feelings of sweet peace.

For the enslaved descendants of Africa, and the op-
pressed of every clime we continue to feel a lively interest,
and the prayer of our hearts is, that all may strive to
fulfil the divine command - "Whatsoever ye would that
men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them".

Our beloved friends Benjamin Subohn and Robert
Lindsey from Great Britain, and several other dear
friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings are acceptably
with us at this time, and with feelings of gratitude to
the dispenser of all good for the continuation of His bless-
ings, both immediately and instrumentally, we have been
led mentally to exclaim - "How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messengers that bring ~~at~~ good tidings,
that publish peace, that say unto Zion, thy God reigneth."

Your Epistle of fifth month last was truly acceptable.

and may this communion and fellowship with our absent sisters, be unto us, as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descendeth upon the mountains of Zion.

Through adorable mercy we have favoured to feel during the several sittings of this our Annual Assembly, that our Heavenly Father continues to be mindful of His militant Church, and under the influence of His Holy Spirit, ability has been graciously afforded to transact the important concerns that have come before us in harmony and love — and may we, in prostration of spirit bless the name of Him, who heareth and answereth prayer.

With the benediction of love we bid you affectionately farewell.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting

Caroline Louisa Jun^r Clark.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

We trust it is under an humbling sense of our weakness, and inability to communicate any thing that will tend to your comfort or encouragement unless we are favoured to experience in some degree, a qualification from Him, who is the alone helper of this people.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle caused our hearts to rejoice in the feeling, that the badge of ~~discipline~~ our blessed Redeemer declared to be the true mark of discipleship, was still permitted to exist between us, and altho' distantly separated, we are by the influence of this divine power brought to sympathize with each other however afflictive the dispensations that are our allotted portion, and may these have the effect to purify the heart, and tend to our furtherance in the way of life and salvation, that we may come more fully to witness that God is love, and they that dwell in Him, dwell in Love — may all, with you and us endeavour to attain to this very desirable situation that His preserving power may be round about, strengthening us to walk in that path which He is pointing

out, that we may be enabled to do, or to suffer whatever
He, in His inscrutable wisdom may see meet to dispense
unto us.

We crave that those in the younger walks of life, may
be induced to cast every crown at the feet of our Holy Redeemer
and submit to His preparing hand, that they may be
fitted for vessels of usefulness in His house, and a strength
to the hands of their elder sisters, on some of whom the
weight of the Church heavily rests, and they are concerned
at times, to stand as betwixt the porch and the altar
with the plaintive petition - "Spare thy people O Lord,
and give not thine heritage to reproach." May these be
sustained by the encouraging promise that, "He will
appoint unto the mourners in Zion, beauty for ashes,
the oil of joy for mourning, and a garment of praise
for the spirit of heaviness, that they may be called Trees
of Righteousness - the planting of the Lord, that he may
be glorified.

Our Meeting has been large, and we trust owned
by the overshadowing of the wing of ancient goodness &
we have thankfully to acknowledge that the Great Head
of the Church has been pleased to turn the feet of His mes-
sengers to us at this time who gospel labours have been
strengthening and edifying. Mothers have been admonished
to instil into the tender minds of their precious children,
the necessity of early submission to the yoke of Christ,
and not to relax their efforts in after life, but to seek by
a deep indwelling of spirit before the Lord, to be enabled to
bring them to Him in true prayer, that He may be pleased
to bless them.

We fervently desire that ability may be sought for to put
up our petitions to Him who alone has the power, and who has
promised that, "He will regard the cry of the poor and needy."
that He will be pleased to hasten the day when Slavery with
its many evils shall be removed from our land.

The account given of your Boarding School was interesting and
encouraging.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Harriet L. Gould Secy. Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

In attempting to write to your acceptable Epistle of 18th Dec. last, the language of the Prophet has arisen - Call upon me and I will show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not - It is to this divine source of all good, that would affectionate invite you - beloved sisters, sensible feeling our inability of ourselves to say any good thing that can reach the pure witness in the heart, whereby we can be edified, or encouraged to hold on our way - May we trust in that power which will enable the humble and seeking mind at seasons to joy and rejoice in the Lord, who at times, in tender mercy is, pleased to satisfy those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, with a portion of that bread and wine from His holy Kingdom, which alone can nourish and sustain that part in us, which was designed by infinite wisdom to be crowned with immortality and eternal life.

Though much poverty of spirit may be the covering of the mind at seasons, yet may we experience an abiding rest by the "still waters", and in lowliness of mind be permitted to feel the power of the Holy Spirit to be as a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path, which if given heart unit will yield the precious fruits of righteousness, adornment and beautifying the mind, making it a fit receptacle for the blessed of truth to tabernacle in - and who by His inspeaking word, will teach as never man taught.

We gratefully acknowledge at this time that the overshadowing wing of divine Love, has in unmerited mercy been permitted to be over us, strengthening and confirming our faith in the power of Him, who hath loved us, and given Himself for us.

The beloved youth, many of whom are in attendance with us, have been feelingly and lovingly entreated to chase the Lord in their portion, that the fruit of their inheritance may be in the promised land: and may this class, both with you, and with us, be guided by that wisdom which is from above and which is just, pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated.

~~The sympathy with you in the continued existence of~~
Slavery within your borders, and desire that every right
opportunity for improving the condition of the oppressed
parts of ^{the} African race, may be attended to, by you, and us,
under the direction of best wisdom.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Suber and Robert
Linsey from Great Britain, and several ministering
friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings have been in
attendance at this our Annual Assembly, whose gospel
labors have been truly comforting to us.

With a salutation of love we remain your sisters—

Signed in and on behalf of the writing

Hannah Gould Jun^r. Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

In a measure of that love which first drew us
together as a Society, and under an humble sense of the
renewed favours which we feel to acknowledge have been
afresh extended to us at the present time; we again sa-
lute you; we trust that we have renewed ^{our} ~~it~~— and
rejoiced in being favoured to realize that is love— and
that Love which first gathered, and has thus far bound
us together, that must continue to bind us, if we would
be preserved as sisters of one great family, and under
this feeling we have desired that we may be favoured
to abide in that low teachable state in which we shall
be fit recipients of Christian love and counsel.

In this time of sitting, and of trust within our borders,
we doubt not that many among you, as well as with us,
may be waiting as it were before the "Arch and the
Altar, saying, "Spare thy people O Lord, and give not
thine heritage to reproach"— but for our encouragement
may we remember that He who walked upon the Sea,
controlled the tempestuous waves, and that He who rebuked
the whirlwind, can over-rule the whirlwind, and
the tempest for good. And may we implicitly trust in
Him, who ruleth among the nations, and with an

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eye of faith and of hope look forward and believe, that if trials
and rich the heart will get better and not worse, and
cause peace to arise though he be small.

Our meeting at this time is large, and our hope of
the future is brightened by the attendance of very many
of our young friends, whose serious deportment, and
careful attention manifest an interest in the concerns
and welfare of our Society, which is cause of encour-
agement, and tends to strengthen the hands of their
elder sisters: deep indeed is our solicitude for their
welfare, and most tenderly have they been entreated
to make us early and full surrender of their hearts
to Him, whose gentle and restraining love has long
followed them - then will they find that - Wisdom's
ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her ways
peace.

During the several sittings of this meeting, we may
reverently acknowledge that the canopy of the Father's
Love was often spread over us, leading his 'back be-
side the sick and dying, and in the wilderness where the
deer's food remains, and under this we were enabled
to transact the various concerns of the Society in much
harmony and love, and the success thereof we desire
may long rest on our spirits.

Your acceptable Epistle of 9th month last, together with
similar testimonials from other Brethren, have been
read at this time to our encouragement and edification.

We have again been favoured with the delightful com-
pany of our Brethren, friends & dear friends, William and
Robert Lindsey from England, also that of many other
dear friends from various parts of the Kingdom, who
have been admitted into fellowship with us, and were quali-
fied by the Holy Spirit, as witnesses, to labor in defence of the
glorious cause of Truth and Righteousness.

With the benediction of God we bid them an affectionate
farewell.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting.

Hannah Gould Junr. Clerk.

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Having felt the benefit of an epistolary correspondence, although in the feeling of great weakness, we again attempt thus to address you, dear Sisters: and it is, we humbly trust, through the influence of the ~~explan~~ baptizing power of Truth, a degree of which in infinite mercy, hath proceeded through the several sittings of this our Annual Assembly, to the humbling of our minds, under a deep sense that of ourselves we are not sufficient to do any thing that will promote the blessed cause of truth, or tend to the comfort and encouragement of another. In having our minds turned to the remembrance of Him who giveth power to the faint, and encreaseth strength to those who have no might, we have felt our confidence renewed, and our faith strengthened to believe that, as we endeavour to dwell under the gathering influence of the Father's love, we may be made quick of understanding in the fear of the Lord, and thereby be enabled, through watchfulness unto prayer, to make a firm stand against that spirit which divides in Jacob, and scatters in Israel, and thus be favoured with ability to keep our ranks in righteousness, holding in profitable remembrance the excellent admonition of the Apostle — Nevertheless, whereunto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing — by continuing thus to do, keeping the eye single to the light of truth, looking unto Christ Jesus our holy Redeemer, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge — and thus in tender mercy we can hope to realize in ourselves the power and efficacy of that faith that gives the victory over all that would obstruct the free circulation of Gospel Love. Therefore, dear friends, while we may feel the present to be a day of perplexity and of treading down, and the good seed oppressed as a cart laden with sheaves, let us by a deep individ-

ling of Spirit, labour to wind up the looms of our minds.
Thank God, and take courage.

This meeting hath been long, and we can gratefully acknowledge that we have, all it to be mercifully owned by the Holy Head of the Church. Many of our beloved young friends are in attendance at this time, and for this class, both with you, and with us, a deep & lively interest hath been ⁱⁿ with desire for their encouragement, and careful attention unto the teaching of the good Shepherd of the sheep, who leadeth beside still waters, and into the green pastures of life, where seasons of refreshment are witnessed, and we confirmed indeed, that there is a river, the streams whereof make glad the whole heritage of God.

Signed in and on behalf of the meeting.
 Hannah Gould Jun. Clerk

of His Holy Spirit upon our hearts, then shall we be prepared for usefulness in His Church, and know an establishment on that Rock, against which it is declared — the gates of Hell shall never be able to prevail.

I will get me to the watch-tower, I will stand in my ward whole nights, I will hearken, and hear what the Lord will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved of Him. It is only as we dwell in lowliness and humility before Him, that we shall witness His preserving power — It is only as we seek refuge in His name that we are safe: but our hearts have been humbled at this time in the belief that the loving-kindness of the Lord is still extended to us as a people, and that as we are concerned to keep near unto Him we shall be enabled at season to adopt the language, The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want, He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters; He restoreth my soul.

The attendance at this Early Meeting is large, and many of our young friends are assembled with us whose attentive deportment has been satisfactory and encouraging, — to this interesting portion of our Society tender counsel has been administered, and we thankfully believe that the depth of our Heavenly Father's love has been renewably extended to them. May we be found a willing people in the day of His power remembering that these seasons of precious visitation are not at our command, and that it is only as obedience keeps pace with the knowledge of the divine will, from time to time imparted to us that we shall be found acceptable receivers of the manifold mercies of God.

We have been favoured to transact the business which has come before us in much harmony.

Our friends Benjamin Subohn and Robert Lindsay from England are again in attendance with us, & also from Early Meetings on this Continent whose company and religious services have been acceptable and com-

comforting to us.

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With the salutation of love we remain your friends,

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting

Hannah Gould Secy. & Clerk.

To London Weekly Meeting of Women Friends.

Dear Sisters,

In the fresh flowings of that love which is both ancient and new, are we drawn at this time to address you, and to acknowledge the receipt of your accepted epistles of last year.

The love here at this time tenderly confirmed in the belief, that epistolary communication, under the influence of that animation, which alone qualifies for the right performance of religious duties, continues to be a favour conferred upon the Church, tending to unite its distant members, and introduce them into fellow feeling one with another, giving evidence from time to time, that the Truth as it is in Jesus, speaks one language, and is the same yesterday, to day, and forever.

Although the present state of society is cause of mourning to those who are rightly exercised in spirit, it is important to remember, that to become skillful in lamentation, and successful in the Christian warfare, the mind must be clothed with the armour of righteousness, on the right hand and on the left. The eye kept single to the light of Christ, which discloses to our view our own infirmities, and points out the remedy which alone is efficacious, and will prove both individually and collectively, if properly applied, the source of conversion, and the restorer of paths to dwell in.

It is truly animating and encouraging to the Christian traveller to behold the prototypes of those who through faithfulness to the teachings of Him, who ever liveth to make intercession for us, are now inheriting the promises; and although their loss to the Christian

Church is deeply felt — and the places which once
knew them, will long remember — the effects
of their devotedness to the ever blessed cause, continuing
to be felt, and though some vision our sight, they
yet speak, and in accordance with the powerfully
persuasive, yet still, small voice, distinctly call,
and invite to dedication of heart. May those in young
— or life be induced to cast their crowns at the feet of Jesus,
to sit and wait for ability from Him, in whom are hid
all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge — and they
will receive strength in proportion to their day, and thus
through the obedience of faith, step forward in the path
of abstinence, and obtain "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy
for mourning, and a garment of praise, for the spirit of
heaviness."

May the burden-bearers, both among you, and with
us, put on strength in the name of the Lord, become
permanently engaged to intercede for an increase of faith,
that they may be enabled to move forward in that
course that is marked out for them — and though
many and varied may be the trials of the present day,
by a watchful, patient indwelling of Spirit, these will
be enabled to overcome those difficulties, which at
seasons may be presented before them, and realize
to the humbling of their spirits that, the "work of right-
eousness is peace, and the effect of righteousness
quietness and assurance forever."

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and this
the condescension of divine goodness, has been a season
of solemnity and renewal of strength, wherein the im-
portant concerns of Society have been conducted in
Christian harmony.

We have had the truly acceptable company of Benja-
min Seaborn and Robert Lindsay, from your land,
together with many dear friends from neighbouring
Yearly Meetings, whose gospel labours among us have
been encouraging and edifying.

May the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood

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of the ever-lasting covenant, make you perfect in every
good work to do His will, working in you that which
is well-pleasing in His sight.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould, Secy. Clerk.

To Dublin Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,

The precious covenants that we have here to-
record with, in this our Annual Assembly, that our
Epistolary intercourse is owned by the Holy Head of
the Church, as an important link in the chain of
the Christian bond - and under a feeling of encour-
agement that as we wait upon the Lord, in humble
dependence for a qualification to address our beloved
absent sisters, we shall be enabled to prove upon what
we are building, even upon the immortal Rock
Christ Jesus - against which nothing will ever
be suffered to prevail. However we may be assailed
by the enemy of all righteousness transforming him-
self in his most subtle and specious appearance
as an Angel of light - yet, under the true anoint-
ing of that which is truth and value, quickening
us with the evidence on whom help is laid; we are
strengthened to resign ourselves to suffering and
trial, reverently waiting upon the Lord for that
wisdom which is profitable to direct - which "is first
pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be intreated,
full of mercy and good fruits - without partiality
and without hypocrisy - with the blessed assurance,
that the "fruits of Righteousness are sown in peace;
to them that make peace". May we, dear sisters,
know the weapons of our warfare to be spiritual,
and mighty through God, to the pulling down the
strong holds of sin and transgression in ourselves -
that we be equipped in the full armour of the
breast plate of righteousness, and for an helmet the
hope of salvation.

The presence of unity, accompanied with the

precious blood of sacrifice, it has been our resource
amongst us at the present time; we have been
of solemnity and reverent waiting that has strength-
ened and ~~renewed~~ the ~~many~~ ~~with~~ ~~many~~ ~~had~~ ~~and~~
holds forth the language of encouragement - Behold how
good, and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell
together in unity - and we may acknowledge that the
fertilizing dew has not been withheld and its gentle
distillations upon the tender herbs of the field as the dew of
Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the
mountains of Zion, where the Lord commanded His
blessing to rest even life forevermore.

The State of Society has claimed our fulling consideration,
we must be more of living concern, more faithfully
to maintain our Christian testimony - yet we are
encouraged in looking over this large assembly to see so
many of those who the mercies and goodness of God,
to whom the language of invitation has been extended,
to give their hearts to the Lord, a willing sacrifice, which
will prove an acceptable offering, that will secure to
them a blessing, enabling them to realize that the
Lord's ways are ways of knowledge, and His paths
are paths of peace; the attention and interest mani-
fested by this class in the concerns of Society increases
the belief that the Lord is at work, preparing coun-
sellors as at the first and judges as at the beginning -
May we all be true friends, be more earnestly engaged
to turn the attention of our minds to His holy counsels
and give an unreserved dedication of heart to His
~~service~~ ~~will~~, that in our allotted path of duty we
may be found as chosen and anointed, prepared and
ledly to sacrifice upon His altar.

We have been favoured with the company of our
beloved friends Benjamin Taborn and Robert Lindsay
from Great Britain, and several friends from neighbouring
Monthly Meetings, whose useful labours have been refreshing & edifying.
With the salutation of love we are your friends.
Signed in and on behalf of the Brethren, Hannah David A. Clark.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Christian Friends, com-
mencing at Newport, in discipline, on second day morning
the 11th of 6th mo. and continued by adjournments to the 15th
inclusive of the same, 1849.

By accounts received from the several Quarterly Meetings,
we are informed that they have appointed the following
Friends their representatives to this Meeting - viz:

For Rhode Island - Hannah Dennis, Elizabeth King, Hannah
C. Robinson, Elizabeth Meader, Anna Howland,
Elizabeth Peckham, & Elizabeth Shaw

For Salem - Alice Moore, Sophronia Page, Cynthia W. Hunt-
ington, Mary J. Page, Olivia B. Oliver, Sabina
A. Page and Elizabeth Tolson.

For Sandwich - Ruth Davis, Phoebe D. Tappan, Betsey Crowell,
Rhoda Howland & Anne Worcester,
Maria Brown, Lydia B. Mitchell, Ruth H.
Baker, Mercy K. Wing and Betsey P. Wood.

For Hallowell - Eunice L. Rich, Hannah W. Jones, Maria
B. Jones, Lydia H. Jones, Emma Robinson,
Abigail Cross and Phoebe Allen.

For Smithfield - Lydia K. Kellum, Sarah B. Carr, Lucia Bates,
Mary D. Farnum, Fanny Southwick, Sarah
B. Crockett, Lydia B. Capron & Sarah T. Walker.

For Massachusetts - Ann Jones, Ann Emma Lang, Sybil
Estes and Lydia P. Fry.

For Dover - Abigail M. Hanson, Ruth Lawrence, Cynthia King-
don, Lydia A. Dennis, Phoebe H. Meader,
Phoebe H. Fry and Hannah S. Sawyer.

For Fairfield - Lydia Taylor, Hannah Pope, Olive Wing
and Elizabeth Richardson. Those names

being called, they were all present except two - for the absence
of these satisfactory reasons were given.

Although the minutes of the assembly are not printed,
that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with that of
Monthly Meetings in the appointment of Hannah H. Sawyer
to the station of an Elder - that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting
has united with that of that of Monthly Meetings in appointing
the gift in the ministry of Rachel S. Threlkeld and in appointing

and Lucia Congdon to the station of an Elder, with Sandwich
Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in
the ministry of Elizabeth Gifford - also with New Bedford
Monthly Meeting in approving the Ministry of Jonathan
Delano, and in appointing John Howland an Elder.

Palmouth Quarterly, unites with Palmouth Monthly Meeting
in approving the gift and public appearances in the ministry
of Caleb Jones, and with Durham Monthly Meeting in
the appointment of John S. Buffum to the place of an Elder.

Dover Quarterly Meeting unites with Sandwich Monthly
Meeting in the appointment of Noah Barnes and Sarah Barney
to the Station of Elders, and with Dover Monthly Meeting in
appointing to the same station Susan L. Hedges, also
that Massabesee Quarterly unites with Amesbury Monthly
Meeting in appointing Henry Pinkham an Elder.

The Minutes of last year were now read.

A Minute on behalf of our friend Abigail F. Cornell from
the Monthly Meeting of Butterfield was read, also one
for David C. Douglass from Springfield Monthly Meeting
Clinton County Ohio. Certificates have also been presented
and read for the following friends, viz. George Carter from
Springfield Monthly Meeting Clinton Co. Ohio, Clara Bales
White Lick Monthly Meeting, Morgan Co. Ohio - Consuelo
Douglass Springfield Monthly Meeting Clinton Co. Ohio.
Stephen Harvey Longana Monthly Meeting - Nathaniel Sands
Conneaut Monthly Meeting and John Thorne. New-Pastors
Monthly Meeting - State of New York. Enos Pray West Branch
Monthly Meeting, held in Miami County Ohio. Emma Nelson
companion to Clara Bales and Isaac Jay companion to
Enos Pray also presented minutes from their respective
Meetings in pressing of the unity of their friends which were
read to our satisfaction. These testimonies indicating
the unity of the brethren with these our beloved friends,
were with their company and religious engagements
comforting to this Meeting, as was likewise the attendance
of a number of dear friends from neighbouring Quarterly Meetings
who had not certificates.

We appointed our friends Sophronia Page, Hannah Harris,

Hannah T. Sawyer, Miss Kane and Mary Gifford to prepare a summary from the answers, to be read in connection therewith.

An Epistle from our beloved sisters of Louisiana County Meeting, containing information of a very encouraging nature was read at this time, also one from Dublin and one from Lonsdon - we have been by these lively communications afresh confirmed in the assurance that this sisterly interchange of feelings is truly as a breeze by the way - cheering and enlivening in its effect on the mind - and under this feeling of its value we appoint our friends Rhoda Howland L., Sybil Jones, Martha A. Howland, Rachel S. Howland, Abigail M. Hanson, Lydia C. Smith, Lydia R. Bailey, Sarah H. Bulthous, Sophronia Page, Ruth H. Baker, Mary B. Hanson, Elizabeth Meader, Ann S. Hines, Miss Kane, Ann C. Kim, Dorcas A. Becker, Elizabeth Peckham and Ann Elmina Long to deliberate on this subject, addressing our endeared friends of other County Meetings, and if way opens therein, prepare essays of Epistles, and submit them to this Meeting at its future sittings.

The representatives are desired to meet at the residence of this sitting to confer on the nomination of a Clerk and assistant and report this afternoon.

The adjournment to the hour our friends may meet second day afternoon friends convened near the 4th hour.

The representatives having met and conferred on the nomination of Clerk and assistant, one of the number gave information that they were united in proposing Hannah Howland to be Clerk and Eliza B. Boyce to assistant Clerk, this proposition being approved by the Meeting, they were accordingly appointed to serve the Meeting this year.

Lively and acceptable Epistles have been received from our beloved friends of New York, North Carolina, Baltimore and Ohio County Meetings, and we have been comforted in the reading of these interesting evidences of Christian sympathy and regard.

Adjourned to the time our next friends may meet.
Third day morning met at the 10th hour.
The Queries were now read, with answers from our
Several Quarterly Meetings, and the Committee appointed
for that service having prepared a Summary, this
was read in connection therewith, and appeared to
comprise the substance of the answers from our sev-
eral Meetings. Desires were raised in many minds
that by a faithful adherence to divine counsel we
might be favoured to remove the various causes of
complaint which are spread before us - and the many
difficulties presented in. Some of the answers have
been painfully affecting, although care is reported to
have been attended on most occasions when delin-
quency appeared.

Adjourned to the time our next friends may meet.
3rd day afternoon met near the 4th hour, and as no busi-
ness presented, after a season of without solid re-
sult we adjourned to meet as usual at the
time to which our brethren may adjourn.

4th day morning assembled near the 10th hour.
The Report of the Boarding School Committee was read
and is as follows - viz.

To the Quarterly Meetings
The Committee for the Superintendence of the Quarterly Meet-
ing Boarding School, have during the past year paid
such attention to their appointments, as usual, has secured
for, and according to their ability have endeavoured to
discharge the duties confided to them by the Quarterly
Meeting.

Our friends, Silas and Sarah M. Cornell, have con-
tinued in the station of Superintendents, and Charles
Whitson and Edward E. Hoag, were engaged as
Teachers in the boys' School during the year, with the
addition of Richard D. Hoader during the winter term.

In the girls' School Martha M. Perkins and Anna
B. Page have been engaged as Teachers during the year,
and Lydia C. Hoag was employed in addition during

the winter term.

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Instruction in the languages has been given on five days in the week, in both schools during the year by Fayette Burr, and in writing, during the latter part of the winter term, by Charles G. Pritchard.

The average number of scholars has been 117, viz. 63 males and 54 females.

Meetings have been regularly held in the House, harmony has prevailed, and the family generally has been favoured with good health. One or two cases of varioloid occurred during the fall vacation, on which account the commencement of the winter term was delayed for two weeks.

Semi-annual examinations of the schools by the Committee have been made as directed, and the Institution has also been visited by sub-committees appointed monthly, these examinations and visits have been generally satisfactory, showing a good degree of diligence on the part of the scholars, and care and vigilance on that of the Teachers.

The accounts of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the school fund have been audited.

The expenditures of the school in the past year, ending with the last winter term have been about 14,254 dollars.

The income has been as follows, viz. Interest from the school fund which may be stated at 6,800, and from board and tuition of scholars \$6,400.

Total income \$13,200, leaving a deficiency of income to meet expenditures of about \$1,000.

The available balance in the hands of the Treasurer in the fifth month, the time of settlement, may be stated at \$508.77.

During the fall vacation, a considerable attention was made in the accommodations for the school in the west wing, by which a much more commodious apartment is provided, and which is believed to be

a great improvement. The expenses of this change and of various other repairs are included in the above expenditures. The deficiency in the income to meet the expenses of the Institution may be principally accounted for from the large number of scholars who have been at the School the past year. The price of board and tuition for members of our Yearly Meeting, being only about two-thirds of the actual cost; and the balance being made up from the income of the permanent fund, it will be obvious that when the number of scholars exceeds a certain amount, it cannot be expected that the income of the School will meet its expenses, and the number of scholars for the past year having been larger than usual, there has been as it is stated a deficiency in the income to meet the current expenses.

We would propose, that the terms of board & tuition, should be continued as last year, viz. thirty dollars per term for members of our Yearly Meeting; forty five dollars for those not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and fifty dollars for others who may be admitted, and that five dollars per term in addition continue to be charged for instruction in the languages. We would propose that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar, free of expense for one term, the same to be occupied either at the next winter or succeeding summer term, at the discretion of the Monthly Meeting. The several Monthly Meetings to notify the Committee at their meeting in the tenth month of their conclusion, in case they propose to occupy the privilege in the summer term.

In pursuance of the authority given to the committee by the Yearly Meeting, a sale has been effected of the parcel of land lying north of Bluey street in the city of Providence, for the sum of six thousand five hundred dollars, and the purchase money has been received & secured in the hands of the Treasurer of

the School fund. And in the circumstances under which this piece of land was acquired, it having been purchased from the remainder of a donation from our late friend Moses Brown, intended for the enlargement of the Real estate of the Institution, the Committee are united in recommending to the Yearly Meeting the permanent funding of the money received from the above sale, and the appropriation of the income only upon the improvement of the Real Estate of the Institution.

In conclusion we would express the desire & hope, that this interesting Institution may continue to claim and receive the fostering care and concern of Friends, and that with the Divine blessing, it may become increasingly useful to the rising generation in our religious Society in affording facilities for training them up in a love of truth, and in an increased concern for the maintenance of those precious testimonies given us to bear.

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Newport 6th mo. 9th Samuel Boyce, Clerk for the day.

This Report is satisfactory to us, and the propositions approved and confirmed by this Meeting - And we have appointed our friends Lydia R. Kelly, Sophronia Page, Hannah B. Sawyer, Rhoda Greenland Jr, Ruth B. Baker, Ann Jones, Lydia Fowler, Mary A. Collins, Jane Minot, Hannah Gould Jr, Lucy J. Hawkes, Lydia P. Fry and Lydia H. Jones - to unite with the School Committee and with the Committee appointed by our men friends, in considering any subjects that may be brought into their view as may tend to the usefulness, and promote the best interests of the Institution, and report to a future sitting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the time our men friends may meet.

Afternoon friends convened near the 5th hour.

The Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were read at this time and the various

periods of intermission therein continued were interesting to the meetings, and the evidence of continued care and concern manifested by our brethren satisfactory.

The Committee appointed this evening to unite with a similar committee of men friends, and with the Select Committee, to take into consideration subjects in relation to the Boarding School gave in the following resolutions, viz:

The Committee on the School Report, having met and considered the subjects referred to them, have concluded to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that two friends of each sex be selected from each Yearly Meeting and that eight of each sex be taken at large without reference to particular Quarterly Meetings to constitute a School Committee, and the appointment be an annual one.

That the admission of Scholars from other Yearly Meetings be restricted to members of our Society.

That when members of other Yearly Meetings be admitted they be charged the actual expense incurred, and that the Committee ascertain as soon as practicable the actual cost per scholar.

For the Committee

Newport 6th Mo. 13th 1849.

John Osborne.

This report is submitted and the same Committee is desired to present to a future sitting of this meeting the names of suitable friends to constitute a School Committee.

The Committee on the subject of Education Report as follows, viz

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting upon the subject of Education Report:

That during the year we have given some attention to the duties of our appointment, and since our organization in the 1st month last, we have held meetings as directed in the Minutes of our appointment, viz.

At the Boarding School at Providence in the 10th month last,

(at which time the Members of the Committee present, witnessed the examination of the school, which was interesting and satisfactory.) and have had three several sittings of the Committee the present week at this place.

Written reports from members of the Committee in favor of the Quarterly Meetings have been received at this time, representing that Meetings of the Committee had been held in those quarters, and Friends generally in their vicinities had been invited to participate in them. And although much had not been done in establishing Friends' Schools, yet the subject has been kept alive in the minds of the Committee in those quarters.

Written reports were made by members of the Committee from some of the other Quarterly Meetings, showing in the whole, that the subject of our appointment has been kept more or less in view by the members of the Committee generally.

Some care has been taken to obtain statistical information relative to the education of Friends' children, but we have experienced difficulty from the want of attendance at our Meetings. Notwithstanding, however, some valuable information has been received, however, the accounts show a

marked increase of the percentage of children attending Friends' Schools, since last year, and we are furnished with the following summary of the results.

No. of children in the Monthly Meetings, between the ages of 4 and 21.	1,100
No. of children between the ages of 4 and 21.	681
" Monthly Meeting Schools " " "	1
" Preparative Meeting " " "	1
" Family " " "	8
" Children attending Friends' Schools	19
" " " Mixed Schools	1,214

Much has been said at our sittings, by members of the Committee, and other associated Friends, bearing upon those present, the importance of the cause, and religious and moral education with a view to the good of our Society. We however feel that but little has been accomplished by the Committee the past year, but

a definite report at this time, and would propose that the matter be continued under the care of a Committee.

On behalf of the Committee

adopted Oct. 2nd 1849.

Wm. W. Thompson,
at Large W. Thompson.

Note—We think it right to state, for the information of the Association, that we find on examination, that ample accommodations can be obtained at a more central point, whenever the Society Meeting, that have settled that it is best to remove,"—

which is satisfactory to the meeting, and the committee are continued and desired to report to this Meeting next year.

The report from the Executive Committee contains the following proposition, viz.

"With the concurrence of the Women's Meeting we have concluded to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that the hour in the 8th and the 11th months, at which our Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders used to be changed from the 1st hour in the evening, to the Second in the afternoon,"—which is united with by this and the women's meeting, and the meeting of Elders and Elders, is accordingly to meet at the 2nd hour in the afternoon in the 8th and 11th months, the change to take place in the 11th month next.

These Quarterly Meetings propose that the time of holding that meeting in the 1st, 5th and 10th months be changed from the 11th to the 10th hour in the evening, with which this and the women's meeting unite.

The same proposition is contained in the Report from the Executive Committee, viz. "A proposition that the sittings for the School of Elders be in future held at the 2nd hour in the afternoon of the day preceding the Quarterly Meeting instead of the 11th hour in the evening as at present, has been united with by this meeting."

the change to take place in the 10th month, and if it meets the approval of the Yearly Meeting, — which is united with in this and the men's Meeting.

Massachusetts' Quarterly Meeting makes the following proposition viz.

"We are united in proposing to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, the propriety of holding this Quarterly Meeting in the 5th and 11th months, at East Massabets, on the same day of the week and at the same hour as heretofore held; and that the Select Quarterly Meeting be held at the same place in those months, the day preceding at the 2nd hour in the afternoon; the Women's Meeting uniting herewith." — which is united with by this and the men's meeting.

Smithfield's Quarterly Meeting proposes that that Meeting, which has been heretofore held at Smithfield in the 2nd month, shall be held in future at Worcester in the same month, and that the Meeting held at Northbridge in the 11th month, shall be hereafter held at Smithfield in the same month, which is united with by this and the men's meeting.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet tomorrow ^{Eight} day afternoon friends assembled near the 4th door.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Ohio, London, North Carolina, New York and Indiana have been read, united with, and signed by the Clerk.

The Committee under appointment to propose the names of Friends to constitute a School Committee presented the following viz —

Mary Stone, Elizabeth Meader, Rhoda Howland, Is. Sarah H. Anthony, Mary E. Bred, Eliza B. Boyce, Mary B. Farnum, Lydia W. Kelley, Phoebe W. Meader, Hannah E. Sawyer, Lydia H. Jones, Lucie Brattinick, John Elmina Long, Lydia P. Fry, Lucy S. Howland, Lydia Taylor, Ann B. Stone, Susan McKaff, Eliza S. Osborne, Rachel S. Howland, Elizabeth Wing, Lucretia Peck, Huldah A. Meader, and Harriet F. Tucker.

— which are acceptable to the Meeting, and they are appointed to unite with a similar Committee of Men.

Friends in the government of the Boarding School, and they are desired to give such attention to its concerns as may tend to promote its best interests, and report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee appointed last year to visit Subordinate Meetings made the annexed report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee to visit Subordinate Meetings, Report: that they have given attention to their appointment, and have extended such advice and assistance to different Meetings as circumstances appeared to require and was desired for, and while we have been introduced into sympathy with our dear friends for the encouragement and strengthening of them. The Yearly Meeting was concerned to appoint a Committee, we have apprehended that it might not be necessary to continue the appointment the present year which we submit to the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

John D. Lang,

Newport, 6th Mo. 14th 1849.

Mar. B. Farnum.

which is satisfactory, and the Committee released.

As journeyed to the time our dear friends may meet. 6th day the 15th Friends met at the 9th house.

The representatives being called, all who attended at the first sitting answered to their names.

An excellent and lively Memorial from Northampton Monthly Meeting, concerning our beloved deceased friend Abraham Sharnum was read at this time this just tribute to the memory of our departed brother was affecting, interesting and comforting to friends, his exemplary and devoted life, and favoured and peaceful close, revived this homage in many hearts - "Let me die the death of the righteous, and my latter end be like unto his."

Endorsements for the certificates of friends who are with us from other Yearly Meetings are prepared and signed by the Clerk.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Baltimore, Dublin and Philadelphia were read, and being satisfactory were signed on behalf of the Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to forward to our subordinate Meetings, transcripts of Epistles received at this time, together with extracts from the Minutes of this Yearly Meeting.

The London printed Epistle for the year 1848 has been read to our instruction and comfort, and we have desired that the caution and counsel which are of general application, may be treasured up by each individual.

Having been favoured to accomplish the business that has come before us in much sisterly harmony, we are constrained to acknowledge the continuance of divine regard from time to time extended to us, we feel it right to recommend to all our dear friends a confiding trust in that supporting arm which is underneath to sustain the weak, and is a sure refuge under every trial.

We conclude, purposing if permitted, to meet at the usual time and place next year.

Hannah Gould & Clerk.

Extracts forwarded to our subordinate Meetings.

Whilst we are impressed with the conviction that the expression of love and sympathy towards our fellow friends, must flow from hearts illuminated by divine Grace to reach the witness in their minds, we have felt warranted in the attempt to invite all our sisters to an increased dedication to the service in which we ought all to be engaged who acknowledge that one is our Master, even Christ, and that in His flock there is no room for the slothful, but that each member according to its measure, is called upon to be diligent in promoting the advancement in holiness one of another, and to minister when necessary

caution, counsel and reproof, and we believe that the latter, when imparted under right influence, in the spirit of Christian love is an indication of true friendship, and is often attended with profitable results, we therefore recommend faithfulness to manifested duty as essential to the welfare of each individual and to the Kingdom large.

I wish to be united, that our dear Father's instructions, in this relation, and know, that our children and youth may satisfy their responsibility, that they be encouraged to a daily application to the alone power of strength, in order to discharge this duty, acting under this solemn command of our dear Redeemer to one of His disciples, and make this our motto "That our hearts be undivided both by precept and example to lead them from the attachments of this world into the paths of purity and piety, remembering that each day, each hour demands the constant & exclusive attention of the mother: in this state of feeling it is ever seeking to provide them to the protection of Him, who said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven. Thus may you trust that a precious interest upon your hearts, and be sustained under all your trials by the cheering hope that their Father only Father will keep & guard these them and carry on His own work in their souls as in a garden prepared for the reception of that precious seed which will produce fruit to His own praise. He has at this time been increased to a daily perusal of the sacred volume, with minds ever intent to serve Him, who alone can unfold the sacred truth contained therein.

Hannah Gould, Jr. Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Beloved Sisters,

It is under a deep feeling of our many
deficiencies that we attempt to address you at this time,
but as we can acknowledge that the reception of your epis-
tle, with those from other Yearly Meetings has been encoura-
ging and strengthening to us, we desire to remember that
help is laid upon the Lord is mighty, and believing in
the gracious assurance that those who wait upon the
Lord shall renew their strength, we reverently thank God
and take courage.

Although many are the trials of faith and patience
through which the Lord's children are called to pass - yet
it is by these things their spiritual strength is renewed.
By these exercises they witness a deepening in the rock
of life - and those who are willing to be buried with
their Lord in baptism, are inadmirable mercy permit-
ted to partake in a resurrection unto life in Him. To
those who go down, deep, into Jordan, it is given to bring
up living stones of memorial. - Therefore beloved sisters
may some among us shrink from the necessary operations
of the Refining Word, but endure His chastening, nor
faint when we are reproved of Him - and be enabled
to adopt the prayer of the Psalmist "Search me O God and
know my heart; try me and know my thoughts - and see
if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the
way everlasting." As this engagement prevails amongst
us individually, we shall be prepared to obey the call for-
merly given by the mouth of the Prophet - "Arise shine for
the light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen
upon thee."

This our Annual Assembly is large - We feel the absence
of some who have been as faithful labourers among us,
and who in obedience to the call of apprehended duty have
entered into religious service in your land. We greatly
desire their preservation and safe return with the Service
with, and that the whom they desire to serve in the gospel
of peace, may bless their labours of love among you.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsey are again in attendance of this Yearly Meeting, their company and religious services have been comforting to many minds. May it please the great Head of the Church to continue the commission to His appointed servants ^{and each} "Go ye therefore ~~unto~~ all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Ghost?" with the blessed assurance So I am with you always even unto the end of the world.

Many of our young friends are assembled with us whose quiet deportment and evident interest in the exercises of this Meeting have been encouraging to those further advanced in life; and a Christian solicitude has been felt and expressed for their growth in the ever blessed Truth. That by obediencing the teachings of Heavenly Wisdom and an unreserved dedication of heart unto Him who is so tenderly calling and inviting them, they may be prepared for usefulness in the Church of Christ, and finally made partakers of the inheritance of the saints in Light - that souls may come from afar, and daughters as from the ends of the earth, and the precious testimonies committed to this Society be maintained in their original purity.

We believe an increasing engagement is felt among us to free ourselves as far as practicable from any participation in the productions of the Slave's; Slaves - We desire that by individual faithfulness to the convictions of Truth, the great work of the Lord in the earth may be advanced by us, in reverent dependence upon Him whose own works alone can praise Him.

We are your affectionate Sisters -

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Mission
Hannah Gould Jun^r Clerk.

Tr. Dublin Society Meeting of the same Friends.

Dear sisters,

Your acceptable Epistle of 6th month last has been received and read at this time, and it is under various convictions of the importance of rightly maintaining this medium of communication that we now address you.

Amid all the trials through which the followers of Christ may be called to pass, the promises of their Lord remain unchanged — "Go, I am with you always even unto the end of the world." The Lord promises that we shall, and in the day when He will bring up His people He will spare them as a man spareth his own son that serveth him — therefore may none of the honest hearted among you or us, be dismayed or cast down in a view of the difficulties that may surround them, but with a single eye to their Heavenly Guide, be willing to press forward in the way of life and salvation. It is only by a deep indwelling of spirit before the Lord that we shall be enabled to distinguish the voice of the true Shepherd from that of the stranger. May we be so concerned to abide under the influence of our Heavenly Father's love, that the enemy who still seeks to divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel may find no place, but that in union with Christ, the great Head of the Church, the living members of the body may be preserved to more faithful harmony.

Our Sabbath Meeting is large — Our dear friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsey from England are acceptably in attendance.

Many of our dear young friends are also present — towards whom the language of encouragement and invitation has been extended, "Look in the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near" To those who neglect the warning voice and suffer the day of visitation to pass away unimproved, the mournful language addressed by our Saviour to Jerusalem will be applicable — "How often would I have gathered you, even as a hen gathereth her

chickens under her wings and ye would not.

May it please our Heavenly Father to direct our hearts into the love of God, and a patient waiting for Christ, that when He our chief Shepherd shall appear, we also may appear with Him in glory.

With the satisfaction of those who are your affectionate friends

signed by direction and on behalf of the Mission

Harriet Gould Jun 2 1844.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters,

Again permitted to assemble as a Yearly Meeting, we have been favoured, renewing to witness the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father extended to us, comforting us with, and desiring to return unto Him in the tribute of thanksgiving and praise.

It is acceptable and sympathizing spirit of last year has been received, and we have been united in the renewed evidence that wherever situated, those who are really the true followers of the Lamb and engaged in the support of His cause are united in the bonds of Christian fellowship, and prepared to bid each other God speed. It is often given us to help one unto another, and while we have felt your sympathy and unity to be strengthening to us, we have desired to encourage you to hold on your way, looking in confident faith unto Him, who is Head over all things to His Church, blessed forevermore. As this is our engagement we are persuaded that He will graciously condescend to teach us of His way, and enable us to conduct the concerns of the Church to His honour, and to the promotion of His blessed cause.

We doubt not but there are seasons when you, beloved sisters, in your little meetings, and when all around you appears to languish, may feel dismayed, may be ready to adopt the language, By whom shall Jacob arise for he is weak but

let us remember the promise of our Holy Redeemer
"that He will be with His followers and disciples
even unto the end of the world" - all these to know
Him to be very near in the time of trouble, and when
the storm has assailed them have these promises
to witness Him to hide them as in the secret of
His pavilion.

Our meeting has been largely attended and
it has proved an interesting and solemn season
many of our dear young friends have been with us,
and we believe have been raptured into glory
with their elder sisters, and the help of their spirits
has been felt by us. May this number both a-
mong you and us be increased, and those who are
concerned to follow a meek and crucified Saviour
in the way in which he is pleased to lead them, be
willing to bear his cross, and to take upon them His
yoke, counting all things pertaining to this world
as dross, if so be that they may win Christ.

We have still to lament many deficiencies among
us in the support of our various important Christian
testimonies, but notwithstanding, we are comforted
in the belief that there are many up and down
among us, who are livingly concerned to maintain
them, under a firm conviction that they had their origin
in the unchangeable Truth, and that it is our duty to
support them without abatement and without compromise.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our
friends Benjamin Lubbock and Robert Lindsey from
England, and of several friends from neighbouring
thorly meetings, whose religious engagements have
been satisfactory to us.

With the salutation of love we are your friends
Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Secy. Clerk.

To the Annual Meeting of Women Friends,
Dear Sisters,

Being permitted again to assemble in a Church
a fitting capacity, and enabled through divine success
to witness the gathering, baptizing influence of that
strengthens the bond of union, by which our minds
have been humbled from a deep feeling of our own un-
worthiness, and the consideration of the uncommitted
goodness of them, in whom are all our best springs,
and who alone can qualify for any service that may
promote the cause of truth, or enable to offer an offering
in righteousness.

It is we trust, in that feeling that hath no fellow,
that we are drawn to address you dear friends, and
to acknowledge that your letter and acceptance of notice
of the 14th month last, was, whose read in this direction
to the comfort and encouragement of many - and
although this channel of communication is defect-
ant upon a necessary qualification, to maintain it
in the demonstration of that authority which meets the
true witness, and as on the present solemn occasion,
hath a previous and uniting influence, bringing near
together in spirit, the living members of that Church
of Christ wherever situated; therefore in proportion to
the ability afforded in this day of conflict and of
trial, we would offer a word of encouragement to
all, and particularly to our beloved women friends,
who may often feel that they have no might. - May
the Lord with you and us, continue to trust in
the Lord, who in His own time will strengthen
out of Zion, and send help from His holy sanctu-
ary, and enable us to run with patience the race
that is set before us.

In attendance to the concerns of Society that have
come before us at this time, much harmony hath
prevalled; altho' deficiencies still exist within our
Society, we are encouraged to believe that there is an
increasing engagement with many, faithfully to main-

have our Christian testimonies as upright standards
bearers in the Christian militant Church.

There is much to comfort the humble believer in Jesus.
He upholds them by the right hand of his righteousness.
No their day is, so their strength shall be, therefore may
we, dear friends, hold fast our confidence unto the end,
having our dependence fixed on Him who trod the
wine press alone, and who through the sanctifying
influence of His Spirit, will accomplish His work
in His own time and way, which a preparation
will be wrought, that when the chief Shepherd shall
appear, we shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth
not away.

Our meeting has been large and we have been
blessed with the prevalence of unity.
With the palpitation of love we bid you affectionately
farewell in the Lord.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Hannah Gould Smith.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,
Beloved Sisters,

In being permitted again to converse in
a Yearly Meeting capacity, our minds have been humbled
under a deep sense of our own unworthiness, and the
continued goodness of Him who regardeth the low es-
tate of His dependant children, we can gratefully ac-
knowledge that a renewed evidence thereof hath been
furnished by the free circulation of that love which is
the badge of discipleship, therefore are we desirous to address
you dear friends, with desire to offer the language of
encouragement to the various travellers now on our way,
may these rest assured, that it remaineth to be a trial
that they who trust in the Lord shall be as mount Sion,
which cannot be removed, but abideth forever.

The reading of your lively epistle of the 10th month last
was a renewed confirmation, that the right maintenance
of our Christian correspondence tends to strengthen the

Lord of Christian "discipline", and to comfort the heavy hearted in Jerusalem, many of whom have to lament the sad effects of that spirit which divides in Israel, and creates in Israel - some of our hearts have at this time been prepared to unite in the petition - "Spare thy people O Lord, and give not their heritage to reproach."

Our minds have been rationally turned to those in the younger works of life, in desire that they may yield to the tenderings in "graces" of the Holy Spirit, and by an early submission to the sanctifying influence of divine grace they may be made willing to offer joyous and humble dedication to the will of Him who hath called them glow and to a virtue, and thus be enabled to stand as lights in the world.

Our preaching has been large, and we are comforted in believing that during the several sittings thereof hath been most fully moved by the great "Head of the Church."

The account in the Report of your Committee of the improvement of the aborigines under your care was interesting to us, and may you be encouraged to continue your Christian efforts on their behalf, as we can respond to the feeling of a lively concern for the emancipation and improvement of the heathen of colour.

We have in attendance with us our dear friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsay from England, with a number of friends from neighbouring. Nearly Meeting whose company and religious sympathies are so acceptable to us.

An Epistle was prepared in this Meeting last year, and directed to your correspondence, which request was not received by you.

With the salutation of love we are your friends,
Signed by direction and authorized the Meeting
"Baronah Gould Junr. Clerk."

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends Friends

Being convened together in a Yearly Meeting capacity, you dear sisters, have been brought very near to some of our minds, and we have felt anxious to leave this place without offering to you the salutation of our Christian love and sympathy, tho' we have not received any communication from your Yearly Meeting at this time.

Through the mercy and long suffering of the Shepherd of Israel we have gratefully to acknowledge that the several sittings of this meeting have been visiting favoured seasons; and much suitable and ^{ment}encouraging has been feelingly offered whereby the weak have been strengthened, and the weary comforted. Much kindness for the beloved youth has been manifested, many of this class are in attendance with us, and the consistent appearance of a considerable number has been comforting to their elder sisters, in a belief that the Master of assemblies, in some remarkable manner is especially visiting this part of the family with the day spring from on high, thereby preparing us twenty bust, a succession of labours in his vineyard.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Leeborn and Robert Lindner from England, with several from neighbouring Yearly Meetings are acceptable with us, their company and religious services have been strengthening and encouraging to us.

In conclusion dear friends, we would revive the language of the apostle, "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

With a salutation of love we remain your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
Hannah Gould Dr. Clerk.

From New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
to Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends -

Dear Sisters,

Being permitted once more, in infinite mercy
to meet together in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we are drawn
beloved Sisters, to salute you; and in reading your lovely
acceptable Epistle, our minds were introduced into more
sympathy with you. we trust in the unchangeable fellow-
ship of the gospel, which fellowship is not limited to
deep probations, whereby the living members are bapti-
zed by the one spirit, into one body, of which Jesus
Christ is the Head, in whose name they are enabled
to move forward, aware of a solemnizing sense that
that the cause is the Lord's, but His Servants are
deeply interested in, and responsible for, the prosper-
ity thereof, that the Heavens enclose no place
place be invaded or broken down, and the tender
plants become exposed to the blast of the terrible ones
against the wall."

In reviewing the state of Society as spread before
us at this time by our subordinate Meetings, the
plaintive language of the Prophet has been received,
"The ways of Zion do mourn, because so few come up
to her solemn feasts." Many deviations and weaknes-
es are apparent, among which ^{is} neglect in the attend-
ance of Meetings. Truly preparing the way, as we say
in those who neglect so reasonable a duty, light to es-
teem many of our precious testimonies, yet we have
cause to commemorate that adorable Name, which
has been this "Triptoe, all along, through heights, and
through depths," as the shadow of a great rock in a
weary land, "under the covert of whose wing, many
have been preserved and fast in the faith, once deliv-
ered to the saints."

Through the mercies and long suffering of the Shep-
herd of Israel, we have gratifying to acknowledge, that
the several sittings of this interesting have been uniting
favoured seasons, in which exhortation, counsel, re-

prayer and encouragement have been feelingly offered, whereby the weak hands have been strengthened, and the weak are comforted together, in the hope that many amongst us, having heard the word, Repent, and bring forth fruit with patience. Much tenderness for the beloved youth has been felt, many of whom are in attendance with us, and the consistent appearance of a considerable number, with the evidence of the interest they feel in the work before us, has been strengthening to those on whom the weight and burden of the day seems more immediately to rest, under a belief that the Master of Assemblies, is in unspeakable mercy especially visiting this part of the family with the "day spring from on high," preparing thereby a succession of labourers in His vineyard.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Lubben and Robert Lindsey from England, are again acceptably with us, with several ministering friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose company has cheered us with the hope that the Master is still caring for His Church, that "Israel is His pleasant plant," and "Israel yet the vineyard of the Lord."

In conclusion, beloved sisters we would revive the exhortation of the Apostle, as applicable to us at this time, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong - Let all your things be done with charity."

With the salutation of love we are your sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Hannah Gould Jun^r. Clerk.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Sisters,

In the feeling of sisterly affection, in which we are united as members and fellow labourers in the millitary Church, do we desire to salute you, humbly rejoicing that our minds may be clothed with a language which through divine aid, will at times reach the pure witness in the heart, mutually strengthening the hands

that may be ready to hang down through weakness, and
to comfort the prostrated in ^{their} place.

The reading of your acceptable epistle of 3th month last, awakened in our minds a tender solicitude, that we with you, may be the humble dependent children of Him, who work about doing good, proclaiming liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are in bonds, that the light of Truth and Righteousness may more abundantly prevail in the hearts of the Christian women, girding the fruits of the Spirit, which are defined by the Apostle to be, "Love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, meekness, goodness and temperance" and though we often feel our many deficiencies in the performance of these Christian virtues, yet may we dear friends, be engaged to maintain the useful exercise for the daily support of those duties which we are called upon to practice, and thus become established on the immovable rock, against which nothing can prevail - and in godly sincerity, adopt the Scripture language, that "neither heights or depths, things present or things to come, shall ever be able to separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Our Church Collection has been large, and we gratefully acknowledge that the canopy of divine love, has in tender mercy been spread over our gathered assemblies, solemnizing our minds under its precious influences. Much interest has been manifested in the beloved word, and they have been tenderly invited to submit in joyful obedience to the preparing hand of the Lord and angels such, with you and us, experience a growth in grace, and in the saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We have felt it to be a privilege to have the company & grat
Labau is of our dear friends Benjamin Lubben and Robert Lundeen
from Great Britain as well as some others from neighboring A. M. Unit

With the salutation of love we are your sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

James L. Smith, Esq.

1850

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends held at New Port for discipline, by adjournments from the 17th to the 21st inclusive of 6th mo. 1850.

By accounts from our several Quarterly Meetings we are informed the following friends are appointed their representatives to this meeting — viz:

- For Rhode-Island — Ann Hopkins, Elizabeth Mader,
Mary Shaw, Mary Williams,
Ann D Wing, Joanna Peck,
Lydia C Smith, Elizabeth Shaw,
And Elizabeth Peckham —
- For Salem — Olivia C Oliver, Eliza B Boyce,
Elizabeth Page, and Septimonia Page —
- For Sandwich — Phoebe R Gifford, Lydia Congdon
Rachel S Howland, Mary Gifford,
Susan Howland, Barbara Gifford,
Mary Shepherd, Elizabeth Dillingham
And Lydia Hussey —
- For Smithfield — Lydia E Chase, Mary B Harnum,
Abigail Inman, Lydia R Kelley
Elizabeth Clapp, Mary I Randall
And Ruth Fry —
- For Hallowell — Lydia Allen, Lydia Winslow,
Jane C Minot Jane Pope Eunice Day,
Abigail S Goodard, Mary Cobb,
And Lydia H Jones,
- For Vassellboro' — Ann E Lang, Rachel B Nichols,
Lydia R Huber, Rachel Jones,
Lydia P Frye and Deborah B Warren
- For Dover — Ruth Sawyer Hannah Morrill
Phoebe H Fry and Hannah G Sawyer —
- For Fairfield — Lavina Jones, Hannah Pope, Patience D
Swan, Lydia Taylor, and Olive Wing,
Who are present except two, for the absence of whom
satisfactory reasons have been assigned —

The Clerk being Absent Susan Howland is
Appointed for the present sitting —

Through the medium of the accounts we are informed

that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Providence Monthly Meeting, in the Appointment of Eunice Metcalf, to the Station of an Elder, and in approving the public appearances, in the ministry of Hildah A. Meade and Hannah C. Robinson, that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in the Appointment of Elizabeth Swift to the Station of an Elder, that Hallowell Quarterly Meeting has united with Durham Monthly Meeting in the Appointment of Eunice J. Rich, Robert Goudara, and Abigail S. Goudara, to the Station of Elders. — That Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, has united with Litchfield Monthly Meeting, in the Appointment of Hannah Pope to the Station of an Elder — with St. Albans Monthly Meeting, in approving the public appearances, in the ministry, of Sarah W. Parbridge, and in the Appointment of Daniel Shephard to the Station of an Elder —

Epistles from our Beloved Sisters, of London Yearly Meetings, of the past, and present year, also Epistles, from Ohio, Indiana, North Carolina and Baltimore have been read at this time, accompanied with a renewed confirmation, that this our Epistolary intercourse, is mercifully maintained in the Love of the Gospel and has been greatly to our encouragement and consolation —

We appoint our friends Septimia Pope, Susan Howland, Dubu R. Gifford, Mercy H. Wing, Lydia R. Kelley, Abby Bean, Sarah H. Anthony, Rhoda Howland, Sarah H. Tobey, Ruth H. Baker, Abigail M. Hanson, Lydia Hussey, Miriam F. Bruce, Hannah Tabor, Miriam Newhall, Biscata H. Rogers, Rhoda G. Wing, Deborah B. Warren, Mary Shore, and Eliza B. Boyce to deliberate, on the Subject of uniting the different Yearly Meetings, and if way opens therefor, prepare Essays of Epistles and submit them, to this meeting at its future sittings —

We appoint our friends Mary E. Bruce, Lydia C. Smith, Hannah G. Sawyer, Hannah Wood, Mary Gifford, Vertue E. Whitier, to prepare a Summary from the answers, to be read in connection therewith —

The Representatives are requested to meet at the close

of this sitting, to confer on the subject of Clerks and report this afternoon.

We adjourn to the time our men friends may meet this afternoon.

Second day, ~~afternoon~~ met near the 4th hour. One of the Representatives informed that they had conferred together on the subject of Clerks, and were united in proposing Susan Howland for Clerk and Eliza B Boyce for assistant which being approved they were appointed for that service for one year.

Our dear friend Hannah Gould Jr who has for several years faithfully performed the service of Clerk to the satisfaction of friends is not in attendance of this Yearly Meeting.

We have at this time the Company of our Beloved friends Anna Thornberry from Walnut Ridge Me, meeting Indiana, Richard Mott from Purchase Me meeting, Nathaniel Sanders from Cornwall Me meeting, Richard Carpenter from Purchase Me meeting (New York) and of Lydia Bell and Micajah C Benford from Indiana, companions to Anna Thornberry, on account of whom satisfactory testimonials from their respective meetings of unity with them in their present religious engagements, have been read. The company of the above named friends, with others from neighboring Yearly Meetings have been acceptable and encouraging to us.

The minutes of last year have been read at this time. A Report of the Boarding School Committee have been read which is acceptable to this meeting, and is as follows viz -

" To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for
New England, 6th month 1850

The, your Committee for the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence have given attention thereto. -- Meetings of the committee have ^{been} regularly kept up at the School, Quarterly; and a sub-committee for its more immediate supervision have been held three monthly; in the intervening months, at which reports, on the condition of the School have been received from

members of the Committee deputed to visit it (and examine into its condition in the intervals of these Monthly Meetings,— We believe in this manner a pretty intimate knowledge of the condition of the Institution in its various departments has been kept up by the Committee; and we are encouraged to believe that ~~this~~ condition, has been generally, in accordance, with the wishes of Friends.

The labours of the Committee have been at times called for and bestowed, to encourage the attention of the Teachers and Scholars to the common and indispensable branches of an English education, such as will fit them to fill the common walks of life, and to discourage a neglect of these, for the pursuit of such, as do not so immediately concern practical business.

Yet we think it right to furnish the School the means of instruction in some of the more advanced studies, such as Mathematics, Astronomy, the Latin Greek and French languages, Natural Philosophy, &c.

But we believe in the present state of education among Friends in this Yearly Meeting, ~~the instruction will be most useful~~, the Institution will be most useful in encouraging such a course of study, as looks to the fitting of the children of Friends practically to fulfill the duties common to all— while we agree entirely with the recommendation of George Fox, that Friends' schools should teach whatever is useful in Creation.

Our friends Silas and Sarah McCormell have continued to serve the institution as Superintendents, and Charles Atherton and Richard D. Meader as teachers in the Boys' School with the addition of William O. Brown during the winter term. In the Girls School as teachers we have had the services of Martha M. Haines, Anna B. Pope, and Lydia Strong during the year.

Instruction in the languages has been given as heretofore, for a part of the year by Lafayette Bower, and for the remainder by George Pierce.

The average number of Scholars have been one hundred and one, viz. fifty one males, and fifty females.

The family has generally been favoured with health, and harmony has prevailed. Meetings for worship have been regularly held as heretofore in the house.

The accounts of the Superintendent & Treasurer of the School Fund have been examined and audited.

The expenditures of the School during the past year ending with the last winter Term have been \$13,754 51.

The income from the School Fund has been \$6,595 20 - and from board and tuition of scholars and other sources \$6,912 72. Total income \$13,507 92, being less than the expenditures by the sum \$2,46,59.

The balance in the hands of the Treasurer at the end of the winter Term may be stated at \$262,18, being \$246,59 - less than the balance in hand last year - that being the amount by which the expenditures have exceeded the income.

According to the conclusion of the Yearly Meeting last year, the Committee proceeded to ascertain, as near as might be, the actual expense incurred for the board and tuition of a scholar at the School, and found the same to be \$66 per Term, and that sum, according to the direction of the Yearly Meeting, has been charged the last Term for children members of other Yearly Meetings.

The committee apprehend that the conclusion of the Yearly Meeting is one which it may be well to review, and they think the present a suitable time for the whole subject of the price of tuition and the application of the funds of the Institution to claim the renewed attention of the Yearly Meeting. They therefore believe it right, instead of proposing the terms of board and tuition the coming year, as has been heretofore usually done, to recommend the whole subject of the price & tuition and the application of the funds of the Institution to claim the renewed attention of the Yearly Meeting. They therefore believe it right, instead of proposing the terms for board and tuition the coming year, as has been heretofore usually done, to recommend the whole subject to the deliberate consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

Oliver Spring and Lydia Taylor, to write with a committee of men friends, on taking the several subjects, to which the attention of the Yearly Meeting is called into consideration, and said committee are requested to propose the names of Friends to constitute a School Committee to serve the ensuing year, and report to a future sitting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the time men friends may meet tomorrow morning.

Third day morning 18th Inst - convened near the 10th hour.

The Queries with answers were read from our sincere Quarterly Meetings in connection with a Summary collected therefrom by the Committee appointed for that purpose.

* The State of Society as presented to our view, has introduced many minds into deep exercise, and elicited an increased concern, for the right maintenance of our Christian discipline, which we humbly believe originated in the Truth, and will be found under our Profession a hedge of preservation to our Beloved young friends, some of whom we fear are stumbling too much at the cross and despising the day of small things, causing the Truth to be evil spoken of by the many short comings apparent among us.

Mothers who have the care of children were affectionately admonished carefully to watch the early impressions made upon their tender minds, and to encourage them to cherish the good, and look to their Heavenly Father for strength to resist the evil, that thus being brought in early life under the restraining power of Divine grace and the discipline of the Cross of Christ, they may be preserved from the wiles of an unwearied enemy, and become qualified in the Divine service as witnesses in the Church.

The neglect of the attendance of our religious meetings has been cause of deep searching of heart, and lively testimonies were borne in much sincerity, for the encouragement of Friends, to more ^{faithfulness} in the attendance of ^{all} our religious meetings, and a belief was expressed that as

we are faithful service, the peculiar testimonies which we
are bound to support will become increasingly dear to us.

* And as follows

Ans. 1st It appears from accounts received that all
our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been
attended except a few small meetings which were omitted
on account of indisposition and inclemency of weather, yet
in some a want of concern is apparent; particularly in the
attendance of mid-week meetings, where some care has
been extended. One ^{account} states that a few still remain mem-
bers who attend meetings with the Separatists. The
hour nearly observed, mostly clear of sleeping, and other
unbecoming behaviour.

Ans. 2^d Love and unity are maintained by Friends
except in a few instances, where some care has been extend-
ed, attraction not sufficiently guarded against by all -
when differences have arisen endeavours have been used
to end them.

Ans. 3^d Most Friends are concerned to bring up those
under their care, in plainness of speech behaviour and
apparel, to restrain them from pernicious books and
corrupt conversation, and to be good examples
themselves, while deviations are apparent in these respects,
and a more early restraint with regard to plainness is
wanting in some instances. We believe the Holy
Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th Friends are generally careful to observe the
several requisitions of this Query, where deviations
have appeared care has been taken.

Ans. 5th The necessities of the poor have been relieved
and their children partake of learning to fit them for
business, yet one account states not so fully as would be
desired. The know of no children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th Most Friends with many of the young and
unmarried are careful that proceedings with respect to
marriage be conformable to our discipline - yet there have
been several instances of keeping company and marriage out
of the order of our Society, some which are under notice -

Ans. 7th Our testimony is generally maintained with
regard to the general regulations of this Society -
Ans. 8th Friends endeavour to inspect their affairs,
settle their accounts and be just in the payment of their
debts, also to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th Careful as to recording - some deficiencies as to
certificates
~~to certify~~ which are under notice. -

Ans. 10th Friends manifest a care to deal with offenders as
guinea, and to place judgment when necessary according
to discipline. - #

We adjourn to the 4th hour this afternoon -
afternoon - Met near the 4th hour -

A Memorial from Providence Monthly Meeting, con-
cerning our late Beloved Friend Anna Hays Atkins, and
one from New Bedford M^o. Meeting on behalf of our late
Beloved Friend Mary Bara, have been read at this time,
to the humbling and comforting our hearts - We greatly
desire, we may be instructed and stimulated to increased
dedication in following the example of those who this early
assigned themselves to the work and service of Him who
had called them and made them instrumental in the
promotion of Truth and Righteousness in the Earth -

A proposition was read from Falmouth Quarterly
Meeting to change the hour of holding the Select Quarterly
Meeting from 11 O'clock A.M. to 2 O'clock P.M. which is
united with by this Meeting -

We adjourn to the 10th hour tomorrow morning
4th day morning assembled near the 10th hour -

After a Season of retirement proceeded to business
The following Report of the Committee on the removal of
the yearly meeting was read and united with -

To the Yearly Meeting

The committee on the Removal of the Yearly Meeting (to
a more central point) Report - That they have attended
to this appointment from time to time but are not
prepared to make any definite report this year -

New York 6th mo 18th 1850.

On behalf of the Committee - Samuel Annis Clerk -

The same Committee is continued that was appointed last year.

The London printed Epistle of last year together with instruction council and admonition has been acceptably read at this time.

An interesting Report of the Committee of men Friends appointed to meet in conference with a similar Committee from the Yearly Meetings of New York, Indiana, North Carolina & Baltimore, was at this time read before our men and womens meeting collectively assembled and being weightily considered was fully approved by a general expression of assent and adopted by this Meeting.

Under a sense of the solemn covering that has prevailed at this time we Adjourn to the time our men Friends may meet this afternoon.

4th day Afternoon - Friends met near the 3rd hour. Interesting and instructive Memorials on behalf of our late Beloved Friends Henry and Betsy Chase of Salem Monthly Meeting, and Ruth Osburn of Peace 11th Meeting (A H) ~~and~~ have been acceptably read at this time, and desires have been raised that the example and revolved lives of these our dear departed Friends may animate survivors to a steadfast perseverance in well-doing - that they may also in the end reap the reward of the righteous.

A timely and interesting Epistle from New York Yearly Meeting has been read at this time.

We adjourn to the time Men Friends may meet to morrow Afternoon - 5th day Afternoon met near the 4th hour.

A testimony concerning our late Beloved Friend John Warren from Unity 11th Meeting and one from Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late Beloved Friend Thomas Howland has been read giving evidence of the power of Divine Grace operating upon the mind whereby through the obedience of Faith we trust these dear departed Friends are now inheriting the promises.

Essays of Epistles adapted to the Yearly Meetings of London and Baltimore have been read and approved.

The Committee under Appointment to take into consideration the subjects relative to ^{the} Boarding School have presented the following Report - viz.

" To the Quarterly Meeting

The committee of men and Women Friends appointed to consider of the suggestions, contained in the Report of the School Committee, and any other subjects connected with the interests of the School, have had the same under consideration, and are united in proposing to the Quarterly Meeting - that the price for the board and tuition in the School the present year, be thirty Dollars per Term, and that the same price be charged for any others that may be admitted.

Five dollars per term additional charge, being made in all cases for instruction in the languages.

That the amount to be appropriated the coming year, for the board and tuition, be restricted to the amount of the income of the charitable fund. Monthly Meetings to send forward to the School Committee, at their meetings in the 9th and 3^d months, the names and ages of such children, within their limits, as they may think suitable to receive the benefit of the fund, and any other information regarding them which may aid the School Committee - and the children to be received are to be selected by that Committee. The conditions of the bequest to a considerable part of the charitable fund being in the words of the donor, "For the Schooling of such members of the Society as are actually poor, supported or not, as such by the respective Monthly Meetings. Females to have equally the advantage of the whole of the legacy as Males." - On behalf of the Committee,

Stephen A Chase

New Port, Sixth month 20. 1850."

which is satisfactory to this meeting and the propositions approved - They also propose the names of friends to constitute a School Committee, as follows viz. Eunice Melcott, Sarah A. Faby, Olivia C. Oliver, Sophronia Nye, Rhoda Howland, Jr., Mercy R. Spring, Lydia H. Jones, Jane Elliott, Mary B. Farnum, Elizabeth Osburn, Ann E. Lang, Theodore

S Pope, Hannah C Sawyer, Phoebe H Mander, Lucy, & Hannah,
Lydia Taylor, Eliza B Boyce, Ann B Earle, Lydia R Kelly,
Anna J Dennis, Rachel S Howland, Mary E Brand, Susan
Howland & Mary Williams - who being approved they are
appointed to unite with a similar committee of men, friends
to take the general charge of the Boarding School for one
year -

The Committee on the subject of Education are
continued as last year, with the exception of
Mary Williams, Olivia C Oliver, Mercy H Wing, and Thos. date
S Pope, who are now members of the School committee.
Dorcas B Robinson, Anna Fay, Rhoda G Wing and Lavinia
Fay, are appointed to take their places - And said Committee
are encouraged and desired to attend to the object of their
Appointment and report next year

The names of the Committee on Education are as follows
viz: Dorcas B Robinson, Laura L Chase, Sarah Slade,
Elizabeth Peckham, Lydia Anthony, Mary L Congdon,
Anna J Dennis, Hannah Gaud Jr., Abigail L Arnold,
Rachel Collins, Anna Fay, Martha S Hawks, Elizabeth
Gore, Susan L Brown, Mary J Page, Anna Johnson,
Lydia H Congdon, Hannah H Howland, Rebecca C
Hoy, Rhoda G Wing, Sarah Barnard, Lydia Mitchell,
Mary Gifford, Rebecca C Church, Sarah J Brown, Mary
Shepherd, Mary Brackett, Nancy Pillsbury, Lydia Allen,
Sarah W Pope, Hannah H Mander, Patience Winslow,
Eunice J Rich, Maria Byrnes, Catherine Carmichael,
Abigail J Inman, Ruth Earle, Elizabeth Southwick
Ruth Fay, Phoebe P Fisher Lavinia Fay, Mary Jones, Mary
R Jones, Deborah B Haven, Jane W Jones, Abigail Luder,
Sarah Hoag, Abigail M Hanson, Lydia J Dennis, Hannah
Morrill, Lydia C Mow, Olive Wing, Meribah Richardson,
Sarah J Thompson, Hannah Pope, Abigail Wing, and
Chloe Dauglap.

Men friends have furnished us with the minutes
for the Meeting for Supperings, which have been read at
this time and are interesting & satisfactory -

Agreement to the 9th hour to morrow morning -

6th day morning, the 21st Inst

Met pursuant to adjournment— The representatives being called are all present except two for whose absence satisfactory reasons were assigned—

We are informed that our Beloved Friend Elizabeth Mader, has been liberated by her Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and the Yearly Meeting of ministers and Elders to visit in gospel love, the meetings of Friends and others in Great Britain and Ireland, and to attend to such other religious service as may be required of her— We appoint our Friends Elizabeth Diney, Susan Howland, Sarah H. Tobey & Lydia C. Smith a Committee, to render her such advice and assistance as may appear necessary—

Returning minutes on behalf of our Friend Anna Thornburg and companion have been read approved and signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting—

Essays of Epistles adapted to the Yearly Meetings of North Carolina, Indiana, Dublin, Erie, Philadelphia, and New York, have been read approved and the Clerk is directed to sign and forward them to the respective Meetings—

A proposition has been made for the printing of such of our Yearly Meeting minutes as may appear suitable which was united with, and Hannah Taber, & Sarah H. Anthony, are appointed to assist the Clerks in attending to the service, and they are requested to forward them to the different Meetings for distribution amongst their members—

The Clerk is directed to forward the transcripts of Epistles received at this time to our Subordinate Meetings—

The solemnity that has prevailed during the several sittings of this meeting has been strengthening & encouraging to many minds, And we greatly desire that under the quickening influence of Divine grace we may know an advancement in the path-way of holiness, to the praise of Him, to whom with the Son & His love, we would reverently ascribe, all glory, majesty and power now and forever more.

We conclude purposing to meet at the usual time and place next Year.

Susan Howland, Clerk.

Extracts forwarded to our subordinate Meetings

We have thankfully to acknowledge that the sittings of this our Annual Assembly have been evidently owned by Him who is mindful of His heritage, and that He has been pleased to minister encouragement and consolation both immediately and instrumentally to many who have felt it to be a season of mourning for the loss sustained by the Church in the removal of Beloved and honoured Friends, on behalf of whom lively testimonies have been read, which were deeply interesting and instructive. — And we reverently believe that though dead, they yet speak to us, in the inviting language "Follow us as we are endeavouring to follow Christ" — (and a concern has prevailed that we may by ~~an~~ increased watchfulness, encrease our love for the cause of truth, and by a faithful adherence to the doctrines and principles we profess as a people; showing forth, agreeable to the Apostle's exhortation, "Out of a good conversation, our works with steadfastness of wisdom".

The state of Society has feelingly claimed our attention, by the many acknowledged deficiencies that mark the answers to the Queries, from our different Quarterly Meetings, and the admonition imparted has elicited a renewed concern for their removal, and the impressive precept of our Holy Redeemer "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation" — has been revived and fastened we trust as a "nail in a sure place" — We were led to believe that a want of Love to God, was the prominent cause of these deficiencies, and we greatly desire, that we may all be concerned, to dwell more under the operations of this Love — in the comfortable persuasion, as this becomes our individual engagement our hearts would become constituted before Him, under a sense of His many mercies, and the humbling consideration that He first loved us before we loved Him, and would be an incentive to the more diligent attendance of all our religious meetings — and the perhaps very precious —

and when assembled, for the solemn purpose of Divine worship; we should at times, altho' no vocal communication be heard, realize a being fed, from the Lords table, and witness a renewal of our strength. We believe as this becomes our blessed experience, the deficiencies in the maintenance of our peculiar Testimonies would be removed and our Society would be found coming up to the place, which we apprehend it was designed it should occupy, and "be like a City set upon an hill that cannot be hid."

Mothers and heads of families have been earnestly entreated to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behaviour, and apparel, and in the observance of all, the peculiar Testimonies of our Society. We desire that friends, may be religiously concerned themselves to be faithful in this respect, and may seek for Divine Aid to be good examples herein, that by persuasion and love, they may encourage their tender offspring, to take up their daily cross, and deny themselves those vain indulgencies, which lead the youthful mind astray from the path that leads to peace.

Kindly and acceptable Epistles from our dear Sisters of other Yearly Meetings have been read and a precious evidence afforded, that this intercourse strengthens the bond of Christian fellowship, and is comparable to the fertilizing dew of Harmony, that refreshes the drooping Spirit, and revives our love one to another.

This our annual Assembly has been large, and we have been comforted in having many of our young Friends, whose solid deportment afford an encouraging prospect that they are bowing their necks to the Yoke of Christ. That when the Mothers shall be removed, there will be the daughters, who will be qualified to be standard-bearers in the Church.

We have also the acceptable company of many dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labours of love have been to our comfort and encouragement.

We thankfully acknowledge we have been enabled to transact the important subjects that have come before us, in much harmony and love, which favours we feel in unmerited mercy is from the hand of the Lord.

Extracted & Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting
By Susan Howland Clerk.

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters

It is, we believe in the fresh feeling of that love that emanates from the fountain of life - that we are induced to address you at this time and to acknowledge acceptable Epistle of the past and present year - whose language of sympathy and sisterly regard have been grateful to our minds.

On assembling at this time we have been humbled together in a view of the important services revolving upon us, and under a sense of the remarkable dealings of our Heavenly Father towards us, who in the unfoldings of His holy Will and for purposes we doubt not of His own glory has seen meet to remove from us, those to whom we have been accustomed to look for council and for help as Mothers in the Church, and we can feelingly reciprocate your language and sympathize with you in the desire, that the great Lord of the harvest would be pleased to qualify and send forth more labourers into his harvest, that the Beloved Youth and those in the meridian of life may be prevailed to take upon them the Yoke of the lowly Jesus and dedicate themselves to his service, and thus come to Him in Faith and yielding their minds to the tender visitations of his love, and to the enlightening influence of His Spirit, they may be enabled to embrace the offer of his mercy, and be brought to realize the truth of the declaration "they that trust in the Lord shall not be confounded". -- The spirit of the Gospel is the spirit of Love, and they that live in this spirit, must

live in love, to our heavenly Father, this is supremely due - and calls from us to manifest in all our intercourse among men & in the performance of all our duties that our hearts are bowed before Him under a sense of His mercies, and give evidence that we feel our entire dependence before Him - This feeling tends to subdue and to bring down all that is exalted and lifted up in our hearts and we shall be enabled to walk humbly & fearfully before, trusting with full confidence in His goodness and lovingkindness - Love to one another flows as a necessary consequence of true love to our common Father and as we abide in it we shall know preservation from every word and deed that would lessen the service, or good standing of each other and sweet harmony and unity will be witnessed, all walking by the same rule, all concerned to follow and serve the same adorable Saviour before whom we are to appear, and in whose presence we desire to stand and find acceptance -

Under a measure of the same precious feelings of which we have been graciously permitted to be partakers at the present time, you Beloved Sisters have been brought very near, and the expression of your Sympathy & Unity has been very precious and comforting to us -

May the blessed Head of the Church continue to be your dependence and ours, and under His holy guidance, may we be individually and collectively kept, that so we may truly adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour -

With a salutation of love we are your Friends
signed by devotion and on behalf of the Meeting

Susan Howland Clark -

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters

An acknowledging your Epistle of 5th meeting, a wise has prevailed that through deep instruction & ~~friend~~ we may willingly speak the language of

encouragement and consolation to the exercised mind, and sensibly feeling that without the influence of Divine aid, our epistolary correspondence cannot be maintained in the "demonstration of the Spirit," whereby we are a help to one another, strengthening the weak hands that are ready to hang down through fear, and in remembrance of the Testimony of our Holy Redeemer "What I say unto one I say unto all, watch, and pray, lest ye enter into temptation" - humbly hoping you with us may be renewedly quickened to keep near our Divine Guide that preservation may be witnessed from the snares & temptations with which we are surrounded, oftentimes leading from that humble dependant and watchful state in which our safety consists. -

Our minds have been made unusually sensible in this our Annual Assembly by the reading of instructive and interesting communications received from our beloved Sisters of other Yearly Meetings of the value of epistolary correspondence, binding us to unite the bond of union, which should characterize us as a people and when maintained in the Spirit of love, extends from branch to branch as we are individually concerned to abide in the true Vine, and receive that true nourishment, which can alone satisfy the seeking Soul.

Our Yearly Meeting is large, and it is encouraging to behold the interest evinced by our young friends in the concerns of Society, though many deficiencies are present in the answers to the Queries, which has elicited many pertinent and suitable remarks from concerned friends which we trust to some may prove "as bread cast upon the waters found after many days" - cherishing the hope that there will be a succession of Standard Bearer - ers whose pleasure it will be to do the will of their Heavenly Father. - Our minds have been introduced into a feeling of much solemnity, by the sudden removal of one of our Beloved friends, who were as watch women upon the walls of Zion, since we were last convened, though to us mysterious are the ways of Divine Providence, yet

we desire much to bow to the righteous judgments of
Him, "who doeth all things well,"—humbly hoping through
His wonder working power He will be pleased to raise
up and qualify others to take the places of those that
will know Them no more—

We have at this time the company of several
Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labours of love
have been as a brook by the way, grateful to the oft-times
discouraged and humbled mind and acknowledge the
tender mercy of our Heavenly Father in permitting his
love to be spread as a mantle over our gathered Assem-
bly, enabling us to transact the weighty concerns that
have come before us in much harmony and unity of
spirit.— With much satisfaction we recur to the
interesting document of the Committee of Conference at
Baltimore in ~~June~~ last— which has been read to men
and women Friends collectively, containing much
salutary advice & council calculated to strengthen the
bond of unity, whereby we become one another's joy &
rejoicing in the Lord—

With a salutation of gospel love we bid
you Affectionately Farewell—

Signed in, and on behalf of the meeting, by direction,
Susan Howland Clerk.—

To Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Sisters

It is we trust in the fresh going of that love which unites
in Gospel fellowship, the living members of the Church of
Christ, wherever situated, that we are drawn again thus
to address you, deeply feeling the necessity for a right appli-
cation for that wisdom which is profitable to direct, fully
believing that when under the baptizing power & influence
thereof, an epistolary correspondance is maintained, it tends
to strengthen the bond of union, in which we are mutually
congregated, strengthened, and encouraged to hold fast
the most holy Faith, that through watchfulness and
prayer, we may be steadfast immovable always abounding
in the work of the Lord— and thus through Divine mercy

be enabled so to adorn the profession we make, as to bring honour to the Christian name, and be strengthened to give up our measure of suffering and usefulness for the Lady's sake which is the Church, and as we continue unitedly to serve Him, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, & who remains to be a hiding place from the storm, a shield from the heat, and the shadow of a great Rock in a weary land; And may we, dear friends, so confide in the unsleeping Shepherd of Israel who alone can preserve us, as one compact building fitly joined together by joints and bands, all receiving nourishment, from the same Holy Head Christ Jesus our Lord.

We have much cause to acknowledge the continued goodness of Him who hath digned to sustain His humble dependant children amid all the conflicts of their day.

In attending to the important concerns that have come before us at this time, the precious unity of the Spirit hath been felt and sweet unity has prevailed. We deeply feel the loss that has been sustained by the removal of several of our Beloved friends who were among the faithful labourers, and upright standard-bearers, engaged to maintain our various Christian testimonies, who in the richness of wisdom, in healing, restoring love endeavoured to promote the blessed cause of Truth, and whose example spake this language, "Follow us, as we have followed Christ."

With desires that grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied unto us all, through the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Gospel Love, we bid you farewell, and are your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting,

Susan Howland, Clerk.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters

Being permitted again to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and favoured through the unmerited mercy to feel the solemnizing covering of Divine Love spread as a canopy over us, whereby our minds have been

strongly & reverently to acknowledge that we have much cause of thankfulness, for the continued goodness of Him who hath desired to sustain his humble dependent children amid all the trials and conflicts of their day.

Your acceptable Epistle has been read and was to our comfort and encouragement and we deeply feel at the present ~~time~~ that this channel of communication is dependent upon a renewed qualification in the demonstration of that authority which is accompanied by the true witness, yet many amongst us are afresh ^{made} to believe that it has a tendency to cement together the different branches of the family, and to unite in the precious bond of Christian fellowships.

Though many are the trials of the present day, we have abundant cause to acknowledge that the foundation of God standeth sure, and that there is great cause of encouragement to the humble believer in Jesus, He upholds them by the right hand of his righteousness, as their day is so shall their strength be, this has been the blessed experience of many both among you and with us, some who have had to pass through deeply trying seasons, when nothing but the arm unseen could have supported, when under our humbling view of their own unworthiness, and the loss sustained by the removal of faithful standard-bearers from the militant Church, who were as lights in the world, adorning the profession we make, and bringing honour to the Christian name, the reflection whereof has been extensively realized at this time, oft clad in mourning sensibly feeling the stripped state of the Church are yet bound to acknowledge that the Lord is good, that his Truth endureth to all generations.

May we dear friends hold fast our confidence firm unto the end, having our dependance fixed upon our Holy Redeemer, who to His humble devoted followers, will through the sanctifying influence of His holy Spirit, accomplish the work in his own time & way, whereby a preparation will be wrought, that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that

And still not away -

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This meeting has been large, and we humbly trust mercifully aided by the Holy Head of the Church, many of our Beloved Young Friends are in attendance at this time, a lively and tender interest has been manifested for the encouragement of this interesting part of the family, both with you and us, desiring that may be strengthened to forsake the many hindering and letting things, and run with patience the race that is set before them, pressing forward toward the mark & the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In attending to the important concerns of Society that have come before us at this time, the precious unity of the Spirit has been felt, and sweet harmony has prevailed;

We desire that the blessing of preservation in the fear of the Lord may rest upon us that in the conclusion we may be enabled to adopt this language, "I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song, He is also become my salvation"

With a salutation of love we bid you Farewell
Signed By direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland. Clerk.

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Friends

In acknowledging your acceptable Epistle of last year, we sensibly feel our inability of ourselves to do any good work, but under a fresh feeling of the goodness of God, whose mercies are new every morning, we are again engaged to offer you the salutation of love, believing this early established and long-continued intercourse has a salutary effect, tending to strengthen the bonds of Religious union, and stimulate to a faithful discharge of our various duties.

This our annual Assembly is largely attended, and through the unmerited favour of the Great Head of the Church we have been enabled to transact the weighty subjects that have claimed our attention in much

harmony and love. Much pertinent council has been delivered to us, we have been affectionately exhorted to seek for that which is profitable to direct, and in considering the state of Society, the importance of attending our religious meetings, and of maintaining our various Christian testimonies, has been forcibly presented to our view. May we justly prize the high privileges we enjoy, and may the good seed thus sown spring up to the honour and praise of the great Husbandman.

The removal of many from among us who have borne the burthen and heat of the day, has solemnly impressed our minds with the solemn injunction, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh." May the testimonies of the exemplary lives, and gospel labours of our departed friends, afresh incite us, to devote ourselves more fully to the service of Him who was their leader, & guide, their stay and support, & to follow them as they were engaged to follow Christ.

We much desire that both with you and us there may be a deep searching of heart, before Him who is of purer eyes, than to behold iniquity, that we may experience being cleansed and purified, and come to know His holy will concerning us, and by yielding obedience thereto, and submitting to the operation of His grace, we may be prepared to fill our allotted stations in the Church, and become one anothers helpers in the Lord.

And in conclusion Dear Friends may we earnestly endeavour "to lay aside every weight & every burden, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our Faith; who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame & is set down at the right hand of God's -

Under a renewed sense of heavenly regard we are
We are your Friends & Signed by direction and in
behalf of the Meeting Susan Howland Clark.

To Indiana Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Dear Sisters

A precious feeling of consolation and encouragement, accompanied our minds, on the reading of your acceptable Epistle, with those from other Yearly Meetings, believing they emanated from the Fountain of Love, which unites in Spirit, and enables the Followers of the "Lamb" to join in the Anthem, of "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace good-will to men". We humbly trust that in a measure of this love, our hearts are drawn to address you, fervently desiring that we may be favoured to abide under the influence of that power, which alone can qualify for usefulness in the Militant Church, and prepare offerings of a sweet Savour.

The life-giving presence of Him who satisfieth the hungry Soul, hath at this season been miraculously witnessed, and our hearts are bowed under a renewed sense, of our heavenly Father's continued regard.

The dear Mothers have been tenderly intrusted to watch faithfully over the precious lambs committed to their trust, and in restraining love, endeavour to guard them from the temptations which beset their path, and by precept and example, guide them gently forward into the straight and narrow way, which leadeth unto life.

Council and admonition, has been sweetly blended with encouragement, and our minds are comforted in the "word will not return void, but accomplish that whereunto it was sent".

The solid reportment of our dear Young Friends with their company (many of whom are in attendance) has been cause of rejoicing, on them must soon devolve those duties, which they now, feelings of interest, silently observe, performed by their dear Elder Sisters. Oh may thou with you and with us, yield in cheerful Obedience to the dictates of that still small voice, which teacheth as never man taught, that may be prepared to follow in the footsteps of the flock of Christ, and come forward as valiants in this holy Cause.

Our Sympathies, for our Brethren in bonds con-
tinues undiminished, and may we by a watchful atten-
-tion, to the pointings of Truth, be enabled individually to
discharge our several duties in this deeply interesting
cause, and sacrifice freely, whatever may be required
at our hands.

We have been favoured, through the several
sittings of this meeting, to transact the important con-
-cerns of Society, which have come before us, in harmony
and love. Several dear Friends from other Yearly
Meetings are with us at this time, their company and
gospel labours, have been instructive, and encouraging—
And in conclusion the language of the Apostle has
arisen in our minds—

"To the only wise God our Saviour be majesty
dominion and power, both now, and forever more."

Signed By direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clerk.

To North Carolina of Women Friends, & Yearly Meeting.

On reading your acceptable Epistle, feelings of
gospel fellowship and sympathy, have been renewedly
aroused; and though we have been afresh made sensi-
-ble, that we cannot be helpful one to another, except of
the ability which God giveth, we believe it well for those
who fear the Lord, and think upon His name, often to
commune one with another, abundantly to utter the
memory of His great goodness, and speak His Praise.

We have had cause, at this season gratefully to ac-
-knowledge, that notwithstanding our many deficiencies,
we are not forsaken as a people, and the desire has been
raised for you and for ourselves, that as we have received
Christ Jesus the Lord, we may so walk in Him, rooted and
built upon Him, and established in the faith as we have
been taught, as to abound therein with thanks giving, ever
remembering, that it is only the living branches of the
true Vine that can bring forth fruit to His Praise.

The principles of the Gospel dispensation, are
ever used & glorious, and though many who were helpers of

our Faith and joy have been removed from this state of being, we are comforted in the belief, that in the various classes among us, there are many to whom Christ is precious, who under a sense of His pardoning mercy, and love, desire to be found in the way of His commandments, and that as these are faithful to manifested duty, watching unto prayer, they will be fitted, to fill up the seats of those who are entered into their rest.

We are thankful in believing that the solicitude, on account of the oppressed descendants of Africa, remain undiminished, and that as we are desirous not to live unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us, and rose again, way will be made known, in which we shall be enabled to help those around us, and be instrumental in promoting the great cause of Truth and Righteousness on the Earth.

The religious guarded education of our Children has been feelingly brought before us at this time and strong desires have been raised, that those who are entrusted, with this interesting charge, upon whom must soon devolve the support of the testimonies of our Beloved Society, may duly feel the great responsibility resting upon them, and seek help of Him who "giveth to all liberally and upraideth not."

We feel engaged, to encourage your continuance of the fostering care of your Yearly Meeting to its Boarding School, believing it may be productive of much good to the Youth among you. Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and the different sittings have we trust been owned by the great Head of the Church. We have in attendance at this time many of our Beloved Young Things, who have by their solid deportment evinced an interest in concerns of Society which has strengthened and encouraged to their Eldest Friends. We have also the acceptable company of several dear & wives from other Yearly Meetings whose labours of Love have been acceptable to us.

In conclusion Dear Sisters we would revive the Apostolic injunction—Be ye steadfast, immovable, always

Always abounding in the Work of the Lord; inasmuch as
ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Under a sense we trust of the renewed extension of the
Heavenly Father's love the bid you farewell and are
Your Friends

Signed By direction, and on behalf of the Meeting
Susan Howland, Clerk -

To Dublin Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters

Altho we have not been favoured
with an Epistolary communication from you at this time
we trust our minds have been drawn to salute you in a
measure of that love that is of the Father - accompanied
with the consoling belief that as our dependance is single
upon Him who is our Holy Helper we shall be enabled to
experience the blessed assurance wrapt in "Ye are my friends
if ye do whatsoever I command you"

This our annual Assembly has been large, and
we have afresh been made sensible we reverently believe of
the living presence of Him who has declared that "those
who come unto me, I will in no wise cast out"

The concern of exercised members of the church
for the promotion of the Blessed Cause of Truth and Right-
ousness in the Earth has been manifested by lively ^{the} communion
speaking the Truth in love to the understanding & heart;
accompanied with a feeling of encouragement that there are
many now concerned with us in the morning and meridian
of life who are increasingly concerned to make straight steps
to their feet toward that City that hath foundations, "Marking
well her bulwarks, considering her palaces, that ye may tell
it to the generations following - For this God is our God for-
ever Ever and He will be our guide even unto death"
and while these have been brought precious near to their
Elder sisters in a living concern that they may stand resigned
to do the will of their Heavenly Father, we are comforted in
believing the waving hands are extended to the lambs of the

fold who may have been turned by the vanities of the world in the indulgence of things, which we assuredly believe do not make for peace— And Mothers have been exhorted to endeavour to influence the minds of their precious children and instruct them in a right understanding of our Christian discipline the maintenance of which would lead to the whole some restraints enjoined upon us, and be a salutary means of removing the marked deficiencies that are so apparent, and sorrowfully afflict our minds from season to season—

The recent removal of many faithful labourers Mothers in Israel, from the Church militant, by an Omnipotent but inscrutable Providence, has caused us deeply to realize that our dependance must be placed alone in the one Great Head, and very fervent are our desires that He will be pleased to raise up from among us, those that may be qualified to take the places of those whose seats are now vacant and who were so eminently distinguished as branches of the true and living vine, bringing forth fruit in its season to the Honour and Praise of the Great Husbandman—

We have still sorrowfully to deplore the great Evil of Slavery which hangs as a dark Cloud over our Beloved Country, yet we are comforted in believing that the minds of our Slaveholders are increasingly enlightened to see that this unrighteous traffic is inconsistent with the Gospel dispensation, and that the work of universal emancipation is progressing, under the benign influence of that ^{light} grace, and Truth, which cometh by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—

We have been favoured with the company of several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings whose labours of love, have been to our comfort & instruction—

With a renewed Salutation of love we are your
Friends

Signed By direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clerk—

At New England Yearly Meeting of Women Friends held
at New Port for discipline by adjournments from the 16th
of 6 month to the 20th of the same inclusive — 1851

2^d day morning met at the 9th hour and after a
season of retirement proceeded to business —

The representatives being called according to the
as stated in the accounts from our several
Quarterly Meetings received at this time are viz —

For Rhode Island — Elizabeth Wing, Lydia C Smith,
Sarah H Toby, Mary Shaw, Anna I Wing, Hannah
Babcock, Anna Howland, and Catherine C. Earle —

For Salem — Miriam Sewall, Olivia C Oliver, Elizabeth
Page, Mary E Bruce, Mary Safford, Hannah Page, and
Elizabeth B Boyce —

For Sandwich — Mulidah Gifford, Rhoda Howland,
Mary Shepherd, Phoebe R Gifford, Rachel S Howland,
Ruth H Baker, Lydia C Mitchell, Betsy D Wood, Sarah
Tucker, and Deborah C Gifford —

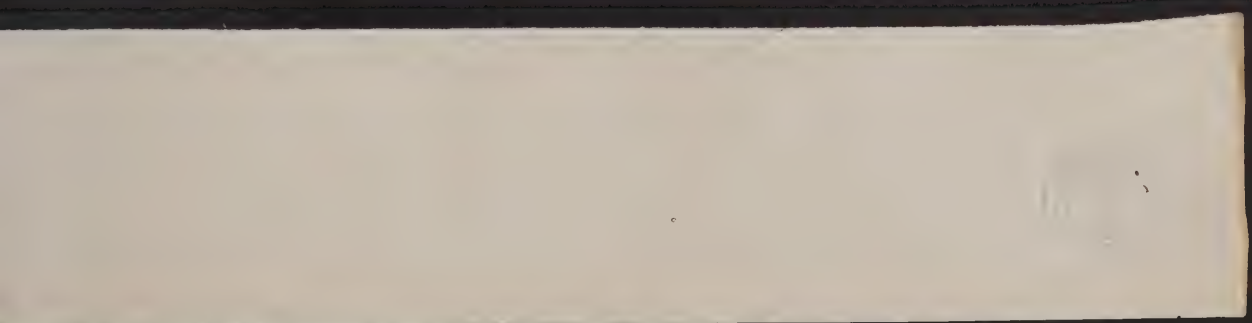
For Falmouth — Jane C Minott, Eunice J Rich,
Lydia H Jones, Maria B Jones, Eunice Day & Jane Pope,
For Smithfield — Mary B Hainum, Elizabeth T Osburn,
Lydia R Kelly, Ruth Fry, Polly Southwick, Ann H Colton
and Ann B Earl —

For Vassellboro' — Annie Calks, Fanny Cole, Rebecca
Taber, Ann Jones, Ann E Lang, Rachel Gifford,
Susannah Jones, and Mary D Stackpole —

For Dover — Ruth Sawyer, Hannah Mount
Abigail W. Hanson and Cynthia Buffum —

* Who being called are present except fine for the
absence of three satisfactory ^{reasons} have been assigned —

Falmouth Quarterly Meeting inform they have united
with Windham N^o. Meeting in appointing Ezekiel
Parny to the station of an Elder, with Falmouth M^o. Meeting
in appointing, Lydia Winslow to the same station, with
Limington N^o. Meeting in the gift and ministry of John
Cattland, and with Durham N^o. Meeting in appointing Josiah
Cushman and Joshua Knapp to the station of Elders —



+ Her Fairfield - Lydia Taylor, Hannah Pope, Patience
Susan Betsey & Bayley, and Lucy & Hannah

and that Dover Quarterly meeting has united with Berwick
M^o meeting in the appointment of Comfort Deale to the Station
of an Elder, also Sandwich M^o Meeting in approving the public
appearances in the ministry of Mary Hoag.

Acceptable Epistles from our Beloved Friends of London,
Dublin, New York, & South Carolina, Indiana, Baltimore,
Ohio, and New York Yearly Meetings, have been read at
this time to our instruction, and encouragement, accompanied
with a precious evidence we believe that this our Epistolary
^{intercourse} is mercifully owned by the Great Head of the Church and
is a means of strengthening the bond of Christian fellowship.
We appoint our friends Hannah Howell, Bulah W. Rogers,
Lydia B. Capron, Mary W. Wing, Rhoda Howland, Anna G.
Wood, Mary B. Harnum, Lydia R. Kelley, Rachel J. Howland,
Lydia Mitchell, Hannah T. Taber, Phebe R. Gifford, Susan Howton,
Sarah H. Tobey, Holdah Mader, Loras A. Tucker, Amanda
M. Buffinton, Anna T. Lennis, Hannah Gould Jr. Eunice
J. Rich, Anna Kates, Patience D. Swan, Hannah G. Sawyer,
Sarah T. Thompson, Abigail M. Hanson, Anna Jones,
Emma Robinson, Cynthia Hanson and Lydia Taylor
to deliberate on the subjects of ^{Essays} addressing the different Yearly
Meetings and present at future sittings of this Yearly
Meeting as way may open for.

We appoint our friends Eunice Metcalf, Mary T.
Smith, Lydia H. Jones, Eunice J. Rich, Mary Gifford and
Lydia Pope, to prepare a summary, to be read in connection
with the answers to the Queries.

The Representatives are requested to meet at the close
of this sitting and confer on the subject of Clerks and
report this afternoon.

Under a sense of the renewed extension of heavenly
regard we adjourn to the time when friends may meet this
afternoon.

2^d day afternoon met near the 4th hour. The representa-
tives having conferred together on the subject of Clerks
report they were united in proposing Susan Howland
for Clerk and Eliza B. Boyce assistant Clerk. The nomi-
-nation being acceptable to the meeting, they are appointed

to that service the present year.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of our Beloved friends Benjamin Seaborn and Robert Lindsay from Great Britain, whose certificates were ministered in 1847 have been read to our satisfaction. Their extensive & arduous labours of love in this land are had in grateful remembrance. We have also at this time the company of our friends Daniel Wood, from Plum Creek M^o Meeting, Monroe County (Ohio) James Owen of Honey Creek M^o Meeting - Howard County Indiana, James Jordan from Amawalk M^o Meeting, State of New York. Anna Adams from Baltimore M^o Meeting of Friends, Sarah C Mackhurst from New York M^o Meeting, and Deborah Hindsdale from New York M^o Meeting, Rachel Hathaway from Greenwich M^o Meeting Huron County Ohio, Abigail H. Russell from Putnam M^o Meeting (New York) Mary Harvey from Miami M^o Meeting at Wainewille in Warren County Ohio and Jonathan Butler of Honey Creek M^o Meeting Indiana companions of James Owen, Simon L. Harvey of Miami M^o Meeting held at Wainewille Warren County Ohio, Caleb Hathaway companion to Daniel Wood and Rachel Hathaway (his wife) of Greenwich M^o Meeting Ohio, and Maria Wells companion to our friend Deborah Hindsdale of New York M^o Meeting all of whom are acceptably in attendance of this Yearly Meeting, with several friends from neighboring Y^s whose company has been a strength and encouragement to us. The minutes of last Y^r meeting have been read at this time.

Under a grateful sense of the solemnity that has prevailed at this time we adjourn to the time our friends may meet tomorrow morning.

3 day morning not agreeable to adjournments near the 10th hour. The queries with the answers from our several Y^r Meetings, have been read at this time, with a summary therefrom presented by the Committee which is as follows viz -

1st It appears from the answers that all our meetings, public and private, have been attended, except a few small meetings omitted on account of sickness, and inclement weather, and most of them by the larger portion of our members; yet remissness remains to be apparent in some instances; particularly, in the attendance of mid-week meetings, on which account some care has been taken; the hour is nearly observed; mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour therein.

2^d Love and unity are maintained by Friends except in a few instances; careful with a few exceptions to guard against distraction; mostly free of differences except two instances, where care has been taken.

3^d Most Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care as quakers after, and to dissuade them from reading pernicious books, and corrupt conversation; yet some remissness in these important duties is apparent—Friends are endeavoring to be exemplary herein themselves. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in our Families.

4th Clear as far as appears of an improper use of Friends' time; not wholly clear of attending places of public resort, on which account some care is ~~extended~~ extended; a good degree of moderation is observed on account of births, marriages, burials, and on other occasions.

5th The circumstances of the poor are attended to, and their necessities relieved; their children partake of learning; we know of none placed from among Friends.

6th Most Parents and heads of families, with many of the young and unmarried, are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline, when deviations have occurred some care has been taken.

7th No violation of our testimonies in the several parts of this query, except a few instances of attending meetings which support a hiring Ministry.

8th Friends are generally careful to inspect their affairs, and settle their accounts, are punctual to their promises, and just in the payment of their debts; and careful to live within the bounds of their own means.

9th Clear as to records except in one instance some deficiencies
respecting our dignities which are under notice —

10th Friends have generally endeavoured in the ability
afforded to deal with offenders as the Society requires, yet some
delay is acknowledged, judgment has been placed when it
appeared necessary, we trust, in the authority of Truth
according to our discipline. —

In a representation of the State of Society, from the answers
to the Queries, we are afresh humbled, under a sense of our
short-comings, in the faithful discharge of our Christian
duties — yet we are renewedly encouraged, to believe, an
increased concern is manifest, by many amongst us,
in the morning and meridian of life, who feel the cause
they have espoused, increasingly dear, and are by their
example, evincing a concern, to stand resigned in their
attainments, to the work and service assigned them,
by their Divine Master; this we reverently believe will
be favoured, to know of His doctrine, in the way of life and
salvation — deep and heartfelt has been the concern
that has prevailed, that we may abide more immediate-
ly under the teachings of our Holy Head whose exam-
ple of Humility and lowliness, speaks loudly to His
believing children so to walk in newness of life, as to
experience preservation from the bites of a cruel Enemy,
whose subtle insinuations, blind the eye and deceive
the heart, blinding it, from that Supreme love to God
which can alone, make way for that Christian Charity,
"that thinketh no evil, that rejoiceth not in iniquity, but
rejoiceth in the Truth," — The watchful care of Mothers
in the early training of their precious children, has
been adverted to, and Parents and children have been
encouraged to a more faithful adherence to the princi-
ples and testimonies of our religious Society; that the
Mothers with their dear children, may be banded together
in the Lord, and by the constraining power of the Love
of Christ go up to the house of the Lord in company, taking
sweet counsel together before Him — that all our meetings
may be more generally attended, by our members, that

The exceptions in the answer to this important Query of our Christian discipline may be lessened, and by watching unto prayer, that spirit may be cast out which would detract from the character of a fellow member, and wound themselves with distrust and jealousy, that weakens the Christian bond, and lays waste the seed of life.

We greatly desire that the council, and admonition feelingly imparted by many beloved friends now in attendance will prove as bread cast upon the waters found after many days.

Under a solemn covering we adjourn until the time our friends may meet.

3rd day Afternoon met near the 4th hour.

An Epistle of tender council to Friends in Ireland from a Committee ~~separated~~ by the Yearly Meeting held in Dublin 1850. to visit the 2 Meetings belonging thereto. Also one from the Yearly Meeting of London to its junior members. replete with impressive council and instruction, have been acceptably read at this time. Adjourned to the time our friends may meet.

4th ^{morning} day Assembled pursuant to adjournment.

A report of the Boarding School Committee has been read, which is satisfactory and solemnizing and is as follows viz.

The committee for the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence Report - that they have given attention to their appointment, and from time to time met as a committee at large and by Sub Committees for the supervision of the school and its various concerns.

The Committee have, they trust, felt the weight and importance of their interesting charge, and have endeavored according to their ability to promote in the Institution a religious guarded education, consistent with our religious profession.

The School during the year has been under the charge of our friends Silas and Sarah ¹⁶ Cornell as superintendents. Charles Whorton and Moses C. Stephens have served as teachers through the year, in the male department, with the addition of John Henry Croftman during the winter term. In the Female department we have had the services

of course to help and cheer them during the Summer Term, and of the latter with Deborah Holway and Mary M. Thacker during the Winter term. Elizabeth Passer has also been engaged as teacher of drawing, and has had the care of some of the younger scholars in both Schools during the Year. Instructions in the Latin & Greek Languages has been given by George Pierce for both Terms, and in the French language during the Winter Term by Louisa Parrot, a native French Teacher.

The average number of scholars has been 92, viz forty-eight Males and forty-four Females.

During the Summer Term the health of the family was good. In the Winter Term the measles prevailed to a great extent among the scholars, there having been forty-six cases among one hundred and twenty-one scholars in the School at the time.

It was cause of thankfulness that all these cases terminated in recovery to health except one. Mary Smith daughter of Moses Smith of Southmouth, an interesting young woman, of amiable disposition and very exemplary deportment, was removed by death. She took the disease while labouring under some other bodily infirmities, which probably tended to increase its severity. Her strength rapidly declined, and after being confined to her room four days only, her gentle spirit passed away on the Evening of the 21st of March Month being a few days over 18 years of Age.

The accounts of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the School Fund have been audited.

The expenditures of the School for the Year ending with the Winter Term have been \$13,413.12.

The income received from the School Fund has been \$7,495— and from board, and tuition, and from other sources \$6,137 77. Total, income including balance of last year, \$13,632.77;— leaving unexpended in the interest-bearing funds \$219,65, an amount about equal to that in hand in Spring of 1850— Beside the above expenditures, the sum of \$529,50 has been expended on

improvements on farm and premises, and in the purchase of scientific books, from funds specially appropriated to such objects.

We would propose that the Terms for board and tuition the coming year, should remain as last year, viz: for members of our Yearly meeting Fifty Dollars per Term - for members of other Yearly Meetings Fifty Dollars per Term - and for children one or both of whose parents are members of our Yearly Meeting, Forty five Dollars per Term, and that the same price be charged for any others that may be admitted. Nine Dollars per Term additional, there being occasional cases for Instruction in the Languages.

That the amount for free board and tuition the coming year, be restricted to the amount of the income of the charitable fund. Monthly Meetings to send forward to School Committee, at their Meetings in the Ninth and third months, the names and ages of such children, within their limits, as they may think suitable to receive the benefit of the fund, and any information regarding them which may aid the School Committee; and the children to be received, to be selected by that Committee. The condition of the bequest of the principle part of the charitable fund being, in the words of the donor, "For the schooling of such members of the Society as are actually poor, supported or not as such by the respective 100 Meetings. Females to have equal advantages of the whole of the legacy as Males."

The subject of holding the meetings as heretofore for worship for the scholars and family in the house, has been several times, during the year, solidly considered by the Committee, and it has resulted in the conclusion to bring the subject before the Yearly Meeting for their consideration, with a view, if the Y Meeting should unite therein, for the Committee for the superintendence of the school the coming year, being authorized, as way may open for it, to direct the discontinuance of such meetings in the house, and the attendance of the scholars and family of meetings for worship in Providence.

In conclusion we would express a feeling of thank

Thankfulness for the sense we have of the continued
usefulness of this school, and for the religious concern
cherished, we trust, by Friends, that under the
blessing of Divine Providence, the School may be
increasingly useful in fostering in the minds of our
young Friends a love for the religious profession of
the Society in which they have the privilege of
membership, and a continued and increasing
solicitude, that the precious doctrines professed by
us may be faithfully upheld before the world —
that the injunction of our blessed Saviour may be
increasingly obeyed amongst us, "Let your lights so
shine before men, that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

Signed on behalf and by direction of the School
Committee. — Stephen A Chase, Clerk —
Providence, 6th month 3d, 1851.

The Report is satisfactory and we appoint our friends
Hannah Gould Jr., Elizabeth Peckham, Eunice Metcalf,
Elizabeth Howe, Mary E. Bond, Miriam Sewall, Hannah
Pope, Hannah G. Chase, Lydia Congdon, Mercy W. Wing,
Bulah W. Rogers, Ruth H. Baker, Lydia N. Kelly, Phoebe
S. Marsh, Phoebe Pond, Elizabeth A. Osburne, Jane C. Minott,
Lydia H. Jones, Eunice J. Rich, Eunice Lay, Cynthia Jones,
Rebecca Taber, Theodora S. Pope, Hannah G. Sawyer,
Cynthia Buffum, Hannah Merrill, Phoebe H. Fry, Lucy
J. Hawkins, Lydia Taylor, Sarah F. Sampson & Eunice B. Dudley
to unite with a committee of men Friends in considering
the subjects to which the attention of the Y. meeting is
called and ^{said} Committee are also requested to propose the
names of Friends to constitute a School Committee to
serve the ensuing year and report to a future sitting
of this meeting.

We appoint our friends Rhoda Howland, Hannah
Gould Jr., Lydia N. Kelly, Sarah F. Tobey and Huldah A. Mendon
to unite with a committee appointed by men Friends to pre-
pare endorsements on the minutes of our Friends from
other Yearly Meetings.

It is the conclusion of this meeting to have the minutes and the Epistles from the several yearly meetings printed and forwarded to subordinate meetings and Sarah H. Anthony and Sarah H. Toby are appointed to assist the Clerks in preparing them.

We adjourn to the time men friends may meet 4th day afternoon next agreeable to adjournment. An address ^{was} friends prepared by the Committee's of the Y Meetings of New York, New England, Baltimore, North Carolina & Indiana, assembled in conference at Baltimore in 5th mo 1851 has been read and cordially and fully united with, believing that its interesting and deeply instructive contents are calculated to increase our faith in that restoring Love that will ever distinguish the disciples of our Divine Master.

Essays of Epistles to Dublin, New York, and Indiana have been read approved and signed by the Clerk. Salem Quarterly Meeting proposes that that Meeting which has been heretofore held at Seabrook in the 5th mo shall be held in future at Amesbury in the same month, which is united with, by this, and the mens meeting.

We adjourn to the time men friends may meet 5th day afternoon assembled pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the Removal of the Y Meeting have presented the following Report which is as follows viz

The Committee on the Removal of the Yearly Meeting Report - That they have solidly considered the subject submitted to them, and believe that the time has so nearly arrived for changing the place of holding the Yearly Meeting, that it may be safe for the meeting to appoint a Committee to look after a location for that purpose. Signed by direction and on behalf of the Committee, in Lemuel Jones, Clerk.

New York, 6th mo. 17th, 1851.

The foregoing Report being united with by this meeting the appoint, our friends, Elizabeth Wing Hannah Gould Jr, Mary Gifford, Susan Howland, Miriam Sewall, Mary E. Bruce, Eunice J. Rich

Lydia Ho Jones, Ruth Fry, Lydia R Kelly, Elizabeth S
Tuber, Ann Jones, Hannah G Sawyer, Abigail M Hanson
Lydia Taylor, and Sarah T Sampson to unite with
men friends in considering the subject of their appointments.

A lively and interesting Memorial from China M^r
Wetling (Maine) concerning our Beloved friend Martha
Hodges has been read at this time to our instruction and
encouragement, accompanied with a sense of the Love &
mercy of our heavenly Father in sustaining her under
such conflicts and by the purifying process of redemptive
love, preparing her for his work and service in the
Church militant, reverently believing that in unmeasured
love and mercy the work has been cut short in righteousness
and she removed to the Church triumphant.

Epistles to London, Ohio, North Carolina and Phila^a
have ^{been} read approved and signed by the Clerk.

Men friends inform they have appointed a Committee to
visit subordinate meetings families and individuals, as way
may open for it. This meeting after a time of solid deliber-
ation united therewith, and appoint our friends Mary
B Hamann, Rhoda Howland, Mary Thove, Elizabeth King,
Abigail M Hanson, Mary E Brud, Ruth H Baker, Lydia
R Kelly, Patience Swan, Elizabeth Dickham, Anna Cates,
Ruth Fry, Hannah Gould & Elizabeth Osburn, Lydia Taylor
Maria B Jones, Ruth Sawyer, Hannah Merrill, Miriam
Newall, Eunice F Rich and Ruth Fry to unite with men
friends in this service, and report at our next Y. M. S.
We adjourn to the time men friends may meet.

5th day of ~~extension~~ assembled at the 4th hour.
The Representatives being called an all present that
were in attendance at the first sitting.

To the Yearly Meeting.
The Committee on Education Report - That since our
organization in the 6th mo last, we have given some
attention to the objects of our appointment, and held
meetings in the 10th and 4th months, at the Boarding School
at Providence, on which occasions some of our number

witnessed the examinations at the School, which were interesting and satisfactory to us. At our meeting ^{in the 10th mo.} it was concluded to issue circulars to Committees of the several M^o. Meetings, calling for statistical information of the number of Friends' children within the limits of the Yearly Meeting, and of the means provided for their education. We have, however, received answers from only twenty-four M^o. Meetings, leaving six from which no report has been obtained.

From the reports received the following summary has been compiled, viz.

Number of children (in 24 Monthly Meetings) between the ages of 4 and 16 years, — — — — 1102

" Children between 16 and 21 years — 462

Number of Monthly Meeting Schools — — 1

" Preparative Meeting schools — — 1

" Family schools — — — — — 4

" Friends children attending Friends Schools, 165

" Friends children attending mixed Schools — 1018

" First day Schools under the control of Friends — 16

" Children attending such Schools, — — 533

" Children who are members of our Society, 374

Our several meetings held at this place have been largely attended, and while the Reports show but little increase in the number of children who are obtaining a literary education in select Schools, yet the increased interest manifested by Friends, in different localities, for a faithful discharge of duty in the moral and religious training of their beloved offspring, as well as by means of first day Schools, several of which have been established during the year, and are now in successful operation, as by the practice, which we believe is becoming more general amongst us, of daily collecting the family circle for the purpose of reading the Holy scriptures in a weighty and becoming manner, has been cause of encouragement to us, and we are induced to believe many Friends are becoming aroused to the importance of endeavouring by every means in their power to guard against the injurious influence which associations in mixed schools must exert upon the tender and susceptible minds of

of their children. — On behalf of the Committee
Thomas S. Jefford, Assistant Clerk
New York, 6th mo 18th, 1851.

The foregoing Report being acceptable to the Meeting
the same Committee are appointed to that service
with the exception of Lydia C. Stale removed — Cynthia
Baffum is appointed in her place; and Jane Pope in
the place of Sarah W. Pope deceased, and Mary V. Smith
in the place of Anna T. Dennis — now a member of the
School Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of
the Boarding School Committee, made the following
Report, viz;

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee of men and Women Friends appointed
to consider the subject of authorizing the Committee for the
superintendence of the Boarding school, to discontinue
in any way may open for it, the meetings & worship for the
scholars and family in the house, and to provide for them
to attend meetings for worship in Providence — Report
that they have taken the subject into solid consideration,
and they would recommend, that the proposition in the
Report of the Boarding School Committee in relation
thereto, be adopted by the Yearly Meeting.

They would also propose that the Friends whose names
are hereunto annexed, be appointed a Committee for the
supervintendence of the school the
coming year. On behalf of the Committee,
Esther Newall

New York, 6th mo 18th, 1851. Ruth H. Baker —
— which is satisfactory and the report of the School
Committee is adopted — and the following friends are
appointed on the part of this meeting to unite with a
similar Committee of the mens meeting for the government
and superintendence of the Boarding School for the ensuing
year, to report to this meeting next year.

Eunice Metcalf, Sarah F. Tobey, Olivia C. Oliver, Meriam
A. Brund, Rhoda Howland, Jr. Mercy H. Wing Lydia H. Jones
Jane E. Minch, Mary B. Farnum, Ann O. Lang, Theodate S.

S. Pope, Hannah G. Sawyer, Phoebe H. Mearns, Lucy J. Hawks,
Lydia R. Hallett, Eliza B. Boyce, Lydia Taylor, Ann B. Earle,
Anna J. Dennis, Rachel S. Howland, Mary E. Breda, Susan
Howland, Mary Williams, & Elizabeth A. Osburn

The meeting for supplicants, having proposed some further regulations, for the admission of Friends as members of the select meeting, an article being prepared by that meeting to be inserted in our discipline, it has been read and this meeting has united with men Friends in adopting it.

It is as follows:—
"Instead of the paragraph commencing on the 78th page with the words "As these are officers, &c." and ending on the 79th page with the words "care of Elders," in the edition of the printed discipline of 1849. — The following paragraphs be substituted viz; In the appointment of Elders, the following order is to be observed — Whenever it shall appear on solid consideration to any Monthly Meeting that an appointment of an Elder or Elders in such Monthly Meeting is right and proper, the Monthly ^{meeting} are to appoint a Committee to consider of a suitable friend or Friends rightly qualified for that station. The Monthly meeting, both of men and women uniting therein. When said Committee are united in judgment, that any friend is rightly qualified for that station, they shall in writing request the Quarterly Meeting to appoint a committee to join with them in considering the subject, without communicating the name or names of the Friends proposed to the Quarterly Meeting. The Quarterly Meeting shall thereupon comply with such request, the men and women meeting uniting therein, and if the Committee of the Quarterly Meeting so appointed shall advise thereto, the Committee of the Mo. Meeting shall propose such friend or Friends to their Monthly Meetings; and after the Monthly Meeting have approved such, acknowledging them duly examined and qualified for that service, as they are officers of the Church at large, let them acquaint the Quarterly meeting therewith, who after waiting for their concurring unity and finding nothing to hinder, are to minute the same, and the friend or friends so appointed may then sit in any of

of our Meetings of Ministers and Elders. Information is to be given by the Quarterly to the Select Quarterly Meetings and by each of the Quarterly Meetings to the Yearly Meetings, & the names of the Friends appointed are to ^{be} entered on the minutes of the Select Quarterly Meeting, and in the Yearly Meetings records —

And when any friend appears in public ministry, whose conversation shall be clean and blameless, and the Elders of the Monthly Meeting to which he belongs to, (or in case the Quarterly ^{meeting} shall have joined the select members of two or more Monthly Meetings into one Meeting, then the Elders of such Meeting, are convinced that the Lord hath called them to that weighty work, after duly waiting for ^{any} proof thereof, they shall in writing request the Quarterly Meeting to appoint a committee to unite with them in considering the same, who shall thereupon comply with such request, the men and Womens Meeting uniting therein, and if said Committee of the Quarterly Meeting shall advise thereto, the Elders of the M^o Meeting or of the Select Meeting to which the ^{select} members of such Monthly Meeting may belong, shall signify their unity with the gift of such Friend in the ministry, to the M^o Meeting, who after weightily judging after the mind of Truth therein, and being united in approving him or her as a minister in the Church, the same be entered and sent forward, in like manner as in the Case of Elders." —

Our Beloved Friend Lytle Jones has been liberated (we are informed) by her Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and by the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders to visit in the Love of the Gospel Friends and some others in Great Britain and Ireland, some places on the continent of Europe, and if way should open for it to visit Sierra-Leone, Liberia, some Islands on the the Western Coast of Africa, and a few of the West India Islands — and in a view of the extent and importance of this religious engagement we appoint Susan Howland, Theodore Pope, Sarah H Tobey and

Mary E Bruce to unite with a committee of men friends in rendering her such advice and aid and assistance as appears necessary with regard to her proposed extensive visit.

An Essay has been read addressed to Baltimore Yearly Meeting approved and signed.

The Committee to prepare endorsements on the certificates of our Beloved Friends from other Yearly Meetings presented them at this time and are approved and signed by the Clerk.

We adjourn to the time Men Friends may meet ^{the} day ^{morning} Assembly near the ^{the} Howe.

Essays of Epistles to Dublin, New York and Indiana, have been read approved and directed to be signed by the Clerk.

The committee to prepare Endorsements on the certificates of our Beloved Friends from other Yearly Meetings presented them at this time, and are approved and signed by the Clerk.

A lively and instructive memorial, concerning our Beloved Friend Elizabeth Meade of Dover N. H. has been read to our comfort and encouragement, affording a precious evidence that as she ~~was~~ favoured early to resign herself to the transforming power of Divine Grace, she was enabled through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus to make a willing sacrifice, of all that was sweet in life and through unmeasured ^{many} trust permitted to enter into the joy of her Lord.

Also, an instructive memorial from Uxbridge Monthly meeting concerning our Beloved ^{thing} Royal Southwick (has been read at this time) whose example and influence was consistent with a long life of dedication in the service of our Divine Master - And feelingly reminds us of our broken ranks, in the removal of many Beloved Friends - faithful burden bearers in the Church eminently useful in their day - often concerned to watch unto prayer - for the preservation of the flock - and

and a right maintenance of our Christian discipline under conflicting trials, permitted to assail us.

The London Printed Epistle has been read at this time - and we are led to assure the salutory counsel and admonition imparted may be cherished in our hearts and numbered among our blessings as a religious Society.

The Clerk is directed to forward the minutes of this Yearly Meeting with the Epistles to subordinate Meetings.

Under a solemnizing sense that we have through unmerited mercy been permitted to mingle together in religious exercise, in much harmony and Christian condescension, to our strength and encouragement may we be concerned to retain an humbling sense thereof feeling our individual responsibility to Him who is the Supreme Author of all good, and has condescended to our present Helper, in the needful time - To whom with the Son of His love we would lovingly ascribe all praise honour and glory now, and forever more.

We conclude, purposing to meet at the usual time, and place next Year.

Signed on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clerk

To London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Friends

Your acceptable epistle of 1851 has been received and read at this time, to our comfort and encouragement, and we have renewed cause to believe that the Divine blessing still rests upon this correspondence; may we be concerned to maintain it in the life and power of the unchangeable Truth.

We have met to attend this Yearly Meeting under feelings of unusual discouragements, in a view of our many weaknesses, and the removal by death, of burthen bearers, but we have been encouraged day by day, to rely upon the promise, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength," and to believe that He who hath all power, in Heaven and in Earth, is able as ever He was, to raise up Judges as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning.

That it is often in the counsel of His wisdom that the weak things of the world shall confound the mighty, yea things that are not, to bring to naught things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.

And we can acknowledge with reverent gratitude to our Heavenly Father, that as we have waited in humble reliance upon Him, out of weakness we have at times been made strong, and in this strength which has been mercifully vouchsafed, we have been enabled to transact the various concerns, which have come before us in much harmony and love.

The state of Society as presented to us by the answers to the Queries, has introduced our minds into deep exercise, on account of the deficiencies that continue to exist. much affectionate counsel has been imparted, and Mothers exhorted, to a faithful discharge of their various and responsible duties, and may they be encouraged to give heed to this injunction "In the morning sow thy seed, in the Evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they ^{both} shall be alike good."

We earnestly desire that our dear young friends, both with you and with us, may feel the importance of an individual abiding under the baptizing purifying fluid, which can alone qualify any for service in the Cause of Truth; That when the gentle voice of the Great Shepherd may be heard in the secret of their hearts, calling for sacrifices and

and service for his names sake, they may be strength-
-ened to step forth, clad in the beautiful garments of
the followers of the Lamb, ready to obey His holy bidding.
May they at this time experience a renewed quali-
-fication to array themselves in this Christian adorning,
according to the apostolic injunction - "Put on
therefore holy and Beloved a cloth of God, bowels of
mercies, kindness, ~~humility~~ ^{humility}, of mind, meekness
long suffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving
one another."

Our sympathies have been drawn forth on behalf of
our coloured brethren and Sisters (descendants of Africa)
who are still held in bondage, and many amongst us
we trust bear them on our hearts, in aspirations to our
common Father, that He would Himself place the
cause of this oppressed people, and in His own time effect
their deliverance.

We are favoured at this time with the
company of our dear friends Benjamin Seibohm and
Robert Lindsey from your land, whose extensive labours
of love amongst us, now nearly completed, will we
trust long be gratefully and profitably remembered -
A number of our dear friends have of later times been
drawn as we trust, in the constraining love of the gospel
to your shores - Earnest has been our solicitude for
these, that He who putteth forth His own, may go before
them, and enable them to go out, and come in with ac-
-ceptance before His people -

"Finally dear Sisters, farewell, Be perfect, be
of good comfort, live in peace, and the God of
Love and Peace shall be with you"

Affectionately Farewell in the Lord -

Signed by direction of the Meeting
Susan Howland Clerk -

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To the next Yearly Meeting of Women Friends to be held
in Dublin

Dear Sisters

Being again favoured to come together
at our Annual Meeting we have cause gratefully to acknow-
- ledge that our Heavenly Father has we believe notwithstanding
- ing our unworthiness been mercifully pleased to con-
- bring us near together in His love.

Your acceptable Epistle of the present Year has been
received, and in the fresh flowings of gospel Love, you have
been brought very near to us
in a measure of which we now salute you.

The Truths of our holy Religion are unchangeable; He
who called our fore-fathers out of the darkness of the
world into His own marvellous light - He who unfolded
to them the spirituality of the Gospel dispensation and
enabled them to embrace and promulgate it in its purity,
remains to be the same yesterday to day and forever - and
as we abide faithful unto Him we shall experience more
as they did, His preserving arm, to be round about us, streng-
- ening us, to hold fast the same doctrines, & to support
the same precious Testimonies.

We have renewedly felt at this time, that we
are one people wherever situated - one in faith, one
in practice and one in the blessed hope of the Gospel.

Your unity and sympathy beloved Sisters will
our trials, have proved truly precious and strengthening
to us. And we desire that we may be so preserved
on the sure foundation - so engaged to walk by the same
rule, and mind the same thing, that our unity and
fellowship may never be lessened, but that we may
prove one another's helpers in the Love.

This meeting has been large, and the various
concerns that have come before ^{us} has been conducted
in great harmony - and while we sorrowfully feel
the loss of many that have been removed from among
us, to whom we have been accustomed to look for
counsel and for help as Mothers in the Church, we
are comforted in the Hope, that the Love of the Holy

Harvest will be pleased to raise up and send forth, from amongst the beloved youth, more labourers into His harvest.

And the subject of Slavery we trust continues to claim our prayerful attention and we desire to be found prepared to avail of every right opening to promote the universal emancipation of this oppressed and degraded portion of the human family.

And now dear Friends in conclusion we bid you affectionately farewell; desiring ^{that} mercy, grace peace and Truth may abound amongst us.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting

Susan Howland Clark

To South Carolina Yearly Meeting of Women Friends

Dear Sisters

On the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 11th month last, with similar ones from other Yearly Meetings, our hearts were made to rejoice, in the renewed evidence of the Love of our Heavenly Father in thus enabling us to unite in the one spirit, and in the refreshment experienced in its precious influence—extending from Sea to Sea, and from the rivers to the ends of the earth—how great is His mercy that all are privileged, invited and even entreated, to partake of its enlivening streams, on the terms of faithful obedience to the law written in the heart, and by an unswerving adherence to the still small voice intelligible to the devoted heart, saying this is the way, walk ye in it. We have felt our minds, deeply solemnized in the removal by death of several beloved friends who have long been endeavouring to support the cause of Truth and righteousness, and whom we have long ^{been} accustomed to meet at these our annual gatherings—These having been released from their allotted measure of probation and trial, have we humbly trust safely arrived at the haven of eternal rest, beyond the reach of sorrow, and may we dear Sisters so follow their example, as to accept the language of the Psalmist—The Lord is ^{become my strength &} my Song, and is

become my Salvation". With you we feelingly deplore the continuous sufferings of the descendants of Africa; and have desired we may truly sympathize with this oppressed portion of our fellow-beings, and avoid every measure that might have a tendency to increase or protract their misery.

Our Meeting has been large and we have the acceptable company of many friends from other Yearly Meetings, those mingling with us in Christian fellowship, and labouring with us in the love of the gospel have been truly strengthening; and we desire gratefully to acknowledge this, and other favours bestowed upon us, as a sincere claim on our gratitude to Him who is we believe inclined to do us good, "to bless the provision of Lion and satisfy her poor with bread."

With a salutation of love we are affectionately
Your Friends in the Lord

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clark—

To the dear Yearly Meetings of Western Friends
Beloved Sisters

By the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 10th last, and as we humbly trust by the renewed extension of that love that unites all our living members wherever situated, as in bonds of Christian Fellowship, we are drawn again to salute you. With you dear Sisters we acknowledge we can do nothing of ourselves even in performing the interesting service of ^{you} ~~advocating~~—and that only by a renewal of spiritual strength can we promote the cause which is dear to us as a people. Let us then earnestly strive in all these our annual Assemblies, to be so divested of self, and of our own righteousness, as that we may increasingly witness a being clothed upon by the spirit of Christ, that under this holy covering, we may even be as Epistles, written in one another's hearts, and our communications, meeting the witness for God within, may continue to be ^{to} our mutual comfort and edification. Although we feel ourselves in com-

encompassed with weakness, and as a people coming short of the Lord's gracious purposes, yet we are bound humbly to acknowledge, that an evidence is still afforded that we are not a forsaken people - The feet of the Lord's ministers have been turned to our borders, and the gospel has been preached unto us - and as in the days of our Saviour and the Apostles, this preaching teacheth that we are called upon, to resign our own wills to the will of God, whatever it may be, and that all our crowns and all our idols, must be laid at the feet of Jesus following in the footsteps of Him whose mission on Earth was to do the will of his Father - even to save that which was lost - to bring sinners to repentance, and finally to draw all men ^{unto} himself. What manner of persons ought we then to be dear Sisters? how ought the love of the world, and the glory thereof to be stained in our view! Seeking not great things for ourselves but using the blessings given us to enjoy in this life as coming from the Lord's bountiful hand - and by our Faith and our works honouring Him and doing good to our fellow man.

It is now humbling the reflection that so many fail in the performance of our whole duty to God and to one another - Let us fervently pray to be enabled to withstand the temptations which abound in the world, and to hinder the dedication of our hearts unto the Lord, and the promotion of Truth and righteousness in the Earth.

Our several sittings have been large and mercifully continued under the solemn covering of divine love, whereby we have been enabled to transact the affairs of Society, in unity and much harmony of feeling. The younger portion of our members have been solemnly admonished of the need there is for them, to take heed to the instructions of wisdom, so that in their lives they may honour God, by a circumspect walking, and in death be joined unto the assembly already around the Throne - They have been feelingly invited into the

field of labour, so that Zion, may yet have helpers, when those who remain as others in Israel may be removed to their reward. We do affectionately urge upon the youthful class with you, that they also may be willing to listen to the voice of Wisdom - that they may not be deceived in their estimation of what constitutes true happiness in life, but believe now the testimony of many, who have experienced that wisdoms ways are those of pleasantness and all her paths lead to peace - as they hearken to her gentle admonitions, she will tell them more; and they will be led safely through the changing scenes of time & finally rejoice with joy unspeakable.

Many of our minds are often introduced into deep sympathy with that portion of the human family, from whom are wrested the dearest rights of life, and we earnestly desire that whatever may be done with you and us may hasten the day of their redemption from bondage.

With a salutation of love we are Affectionately
your Sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf the Meeting
Susan Howland.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Sisters.

In acknowledging the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 9th last we would in much sympathy say to you, "Be of good cheer," for though discouragements often arise, and the spirit of heaviness be the covering of our minds, we have the blessed assurance, "Lo I am with you alway even to the end of the world." May we dear Sisters with this comforting promise be unwaveringly strengthened to "hold on our way" while sojourners in this probationary state and be enabled to adopt the language of the Apostle, neither heights nor depths, things present, nor yet to come, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. Tenderly do we sympathize with you in your expression of being "troubled on every side and sometimes pressed above measure." But may you be comforted in the remembrance that we have

a merciful high Priest that is touched with a feeling of our infirmities" and requires nothing at our hands but what He will in tender mercy enable us to perform, may we with humble reverence bless the Name of Israel's God at all times, and "Though darkness may cover the earth, and gross darkness the people, yet the Lord shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee"

This our annual Assembly has been large and we humbly and reverently believe owned by the Master of Assemblies so that His power has been magnified among us, to the contriving of many minds, and we feel to bless and praise His great Name.

Many of our beloved young friends are in attendance and in the love of the gospel they have been affectionately counseled now in the morning of their day to make a full surrender of all that may be called for at their hands, and give in their names to serve the Lord, that they may experience "the work of righteousness is to be peace, and the effect of righteousness is quietness and assurance forever."

Our minds have ^{been} painfully affected with a deep sense of the removal by death of many beloved friends that have long been engaged in the support of the law and the testimony of the ever blessed Truth, accompanied with a fervent desire that the Lord will be pleased to raise up and qualify others of His humble dependant children for this service; that there may be a succession of standard bearers, in the militant Church, whose joy it may be, to know, and to do, the will of our Blessed Redeemer, ascribing to Him all the glory, honor and praise.

We have had the company of many dear friends from other yearly meetings, whose labours of gospel love have been strengthening and consoling to many awakened minds, and we trust there will be much to be remembered up that will not be lost sight of and be as "bread cast upon the waters found after many days" We have also been favoured with the acceptable company of our Beloved

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Quinn Benjamin Seckham and Robert Lindsey from
England

In the reading of our Epistolary correspondence we
have been repeatedly confirmed in the belief that it
strengthens the Christian bond in that fellowship and
unity which is the badge of true discipleship; and may
it continue to be an unbroken chain that unites us in
oneness of Spirit, to give "glory to God in the highest."

With a salutation of love we conclude and
remain your Quinns

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clark

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Women Quinns
Dear Sisters

Under an humbling sense of our unworthi-
ness, we ~~admit~~^{now} acknowledging that it is through the
goodness of our long-suffering & merciful Caretaker &
preserver, that we ^{are} again permitted, to meet together
in this our annual Assembly; fully sensible as many
of us are, that we have nothing of our own, from whence
to draw supplies, yet in a fresh feeling of that love that
unites and cements together the living members of
that body, of which Christ is the Head; we may assure
you that the reading of your valuable Epistle, has
proved truly animating; and we trust a precious
evidence has been vouchsafed, at this season, that
Zion is not forsaken of her God, but that He designs to
make her an Eternal excellency, a joy of many gen-
erations. Therefore let the "poor in Zion lift up their
heads in hope, and the heavy-hearted in Jerusalem
rejoice for the Lord God reigneth."

Mothers have been tenderly exhorted to watch
over their tender offspring, to guard them from the
the corrupt conversation of the world, and the worst
tendency of pernicious books has been shown.

The beloved frequent retirement from the things of
time and sense, into the sanctuary of the heart,

with a diligent reading of the Holy Scriptures, will
tend much to strengthen the mind, and prepare us
of every class for this service, whose right it is to rule
and reign in the hearts of the children of men.

This Yearly Meeting is largely attended
and we trust that the fervent exercise and ~~praised~~
feeling of unity that has prevailed, from one season
to another, for the various classes, amongst ^{us} may
not prove in vain in the Lord. ~

We are enjoined to bear one another's burdens
and so fulfil the law of Christ," and while we mourn
over those deficiencies, that exist within our borders,
we doubt not, that you also Beloved Sisters are
concerned to yield to a similar exercise, and we
desire your encouragement in the faithful discharge
of your duty, and also humbly entreat all of every
age, to Obey the Divine injunction, to "watch and pray
lest ye enter into temptation" - believing that in this
exercise, preservation will be experienced from
the snares of the Enemy of all Righteousness.

We have at this time the acceptable company
of several dear friends, from neighbouring Yearly
Meetings, and also the acceptable company of our
dear Friends Benjamin Schubert, and Robert
Lindsay, from England whose labours of love have
been an encouragement and an evidence that the
Shepherd of Israel is still mindful of His
servants ~

May we dear Sisters be engaged, still to
sympathize, ^{with the oppressed slave} and intercede for liberty at the foot
- stool of Divine Mercy that the Lord would be pleased
to hasten their release from the yoke of bondage ~

Affectionately farewell in the Lord ~

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Susan Howland Clark ~

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The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends
Beloved Sisters

Under the influence we trust, of Israel's
Shepherd we are again convened in a Yearly Meeting capacity,
and have been favoured to realize the fulfilment of the promise
of our blessed Redeemer, to be in the midst of such as meet
in His name.

The feet of the Lord's messengers have been
turned to this part of His heritage, through whom the
gospel of life and salvation has freely flowed, to the
comforting and uniting of many minds, inasmuch ~~that~~
the language of our heart has been, "what shall we render
unto the Lord for all His benefits"

Those in the earlier walks
of life have been feelingly remembered, with desires that
they may be made willing to yield to the reproofs of instruc-
tion, and in simple Obedience submit to the Yoke of Christ
while young being most feelingly reminded that an early
sacrifice, is most acceptable to the Lord, and that on them
must soon devolve the labours of those who have borne
the burthen and heat of the day, and our minds have
^{been} solemnized in the remembrance and removal, by
death since our last annual Assembly who have been
upright pillars in their day in the Militant Church.

How loudly is this language sounded in our
ears, "Be ye also ready, for in a day and hour when
ye think not, the Son of man cometh"

We have had lively and acceptable Epistles
from Dublin London, and from most of the Yearly
Meetings on this continent, and we are constrained to
acknowledge that they have been strengthening and
encouraging to our drooping Spirits. An epistolary
correspondence maintained in the authority of
Truth, we feel to be of great importance to the
Churches.

Altho many deficiencies, still exist amongst
us, as appears by the accounts received at this time;
which have sorrowfully ^{affected} our minds; yet we are com-

comforted in believing, that there are many who are
bound to the law and the testimony of our Lord
and Saviour Jesus Christ: and our heart-felt desire
is, that this may be increasingly the case every where.

While it is our privilege, to enjoy so many
blessings, both temporal, and spiritual, we humbly
hope that the oppressed and down-trodden condition
of our poor coloured brethren, may be remembered
by us; And we fervently desire for them, the sym-
pathy of every humble follower of the lovely Jesus -
And the prayers of the righteous on their account -

By individually applying the golden rule of doing
to others, as we would they should do unto us, under
the influence of Divine grace, may we not be made
instrumental in assisting to remove from our other-
wise favoured land, the great sin of Slavery -

And now in that love which wishes well
to the whole human family we bid you Affectionately
Farewell -

Signed by direction, and on behalf the meet'g
Susan Howland, Clerk -

To New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends -
Dear Sisters

Being, favoured again to assemble in a
Yearly Meeting capacity, and through Divine mercy
to witness, the gathering baptizing influence of that love
that strengthens the bond of union, by which our minds
have been humbled, from a deep feeling of our unwor-
thiness, and the consideration of the unmerited goodness
of Him in whom are all our fresh Springs, and who only
can qualify for any service, that may promote the
cause of Truth, or enable to offer an offering in righteous-
ness. It is we trust in the fresh feeling of a portion
of that love which the Gospel inspires, that we are
drawn thus to address you, dear Friends, and acknowl-
edge, that your lively and acceptable Epistle of Fifth Mo.
last when read was to the comfort and encouragement

of many; and altho' we believe this channel of communication is dependant upon a renewed qualification to maintain it, in the demonstration of that authority, which meets the true witness, and as on the present solemn occasion, hath a precious uniting influence, bringing near together in spirit, the living members of the Church of Christ, wherever situated;

Therefore in the ability afforded we would offer a word of encouragement to all who feel bound to the law and the testimony of Truth. May these both with you, and with us, continue humbly to trust in Him, who hath testified "Fear not little flock, it is the Father's good pleasure to give unto you the Kingdom" and in His own time enable them to bind on the breast-plate of Faith and love & run with patience, the race that is set before them", and through the sanctifying operations of His Holy Spirit ability will be given, to accomplish the work assigned us by the Head of the Church, that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, we may receive a Crown of life.

Through the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting we have been favoured with a precious evidence that the canopy of Divine Love hath been spread over us; to the humbling, and contriting our spirits, in gospel fellowships.

A large number of our Beloved Young Friends are in attendance at this time a deep and lively interest has been manifested for the encouragement of this interesting portion of Society, both with you and with us, desiring that under the renewed influence of the Father's love, they may be strengthened by His Spirit with might in the inner man; and thus be enabled acceptably to attend to every divine requisition, resting assured, that He who giveth grace, and glory, withholdeth no good thing from those that walk uprightly.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of many dear friends from other Yearly Meetings on this Continent and also the acceptable company of our dear friends Benjamin Nicholson and Robert Lindsey, ^{from England} whose gospel labours have been to our instruction and encouragement.

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We have been favoured to attend to the various ~~and~~
~~important~~ concerns that have come before us at this
time, in much unity; May we with feelings of
humble gratitude to the Author of every good, and
perfect gift; Salute you dear Sisters in the words
of the Apostle. —

"May grace and peace be multiplied unto
you, through the knowledge of God, and our Lord &
Saviour Jesus Christ." —

We bid you Affectionately Farewell —
Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting
Susan Howland Clerk

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up to p 440

Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting
of Friends

3rd Mo - 1706 — 23

Summary from the minutes of 6th March 1881. Submitted in its proper place

It appears that our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been kept up, excepting a few instances of omission which were occasioned by indisposition of the members, stormy weather or the impracticable state of the roads: those on the first day of the week are generally attended by the greater number of Friends, yet a want of engagement in the discharge of this important duty remains to be apparent - particularly as it regards those in the middle of the week - on which account labour has been extended. The hour nearly observed, and Friends are mostly preserved from sleeping and other unbecoming behaviour when assembled. A good degree of love and unity appear to be maintained and detraction guarded against by most Friends, yet a sorrowful deficiency herein is apparent in some instances. Where differences have arisen care has been taken to end them. Many amongst us appear to be endeavouring to bring up those under their care in plainness, to restrain them from unprofitable reading and the corrupt conversation of the world, and are exemplary therein themselves, yet in some instances a want of concern for the support of our testimony in these respects remains to be apparent. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families. Mostly clear of the improper use of spirituous liquors and unnecessary frequenting of taverns & careful as it regards places of public resort - where deviations in these respects have occurred care has been taken - a good degree of moderation observed on account of births, marriages and other occasions. The circumstances of the poor are inspected and their necessities relieved - their children partake of learning to fit them for business - none placed from among Friends. Most parents and heads of families, with the young and unmarried, appear careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline, yet are not sufficiently careful to guard against deviations herein, on which account labour has been bestowed. Our testimony against an hiring ministry in a good degree maintained. Clear as regards the other part of this and the 8th Query. Careful in recording, some deficiencies in relation to certificates are under notice. It appears that care has been taken to deal with offenders as queried, tho' not at all times without unnecessary delay - judgment has been placed according to discipline.

